FBIS DAILY REPORT

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SELA MEETING ENDS, 29 RESOLUTIONS ISSUED

PA022056 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0229 GMT 2 Apr 81

[By Victoria Valles]

[Text] Caracas, 1 Apr (EFE)--The seventh SELA ministerial conference concluded here today with 29 projects approved and protests made against the economic policies of the EEC and the United States.

The 26-member countries noted that Latin American relations with the United States have been characterized by "their lack of uniformity" which has resulted in the hindering of the process of economic and social development for the region. SELA stressed "the need to focus the economic relations of Latin America and the United States in a comprehensive manner through the establishment of general guidelines in accordance with a Latin American policy in regard to that country."

This resolution points out the difficulty that the SELA-member countries have in order to reach multilateral agreements that allow them to face their development from their own option.

The adoption of comprehensive Latin American policies regarding the United States was the main concern of the organization which called for another meeting on this topic to be held in Panama in the second half of 1981.

The criticism of the United States is included in three resolutions which--excluding the differences among the regimes of SELA members--expressed the will to unite to face Washington.

A resolution, supported by Cuba, condemned the possibility that the United States release its tin reserves to the detriment of the Bolivian balance of payments and stressed "the unrestricted solidarity" with the government of Gen Luis Garcia Meza.

Another resolution reaffirmed "the process of regional solidarity" with the "Action Committee for the Reconstruction of Nicaragua."

Nicaragua expressed concern over the suspension of a $9.6-million credit granted by the United States for the purchase of wheat.

A third resolution backed the government of Grenada for what that country has termed "economic aggression" when it reported that the United States will veto a $12-million credit that the IMF would grant to refinance Grenada's debt and build an international airport.

Regarding relations with the EEC, SELA noted that 10 years of negotiations between the two have wound up with no specific results because of Europe.

SELA affirmed that the EEC must negotiate with Latin America "so that the region will not continue to be burdened with a disproportionate part of the cost of the European integration process."

SELA also approved a project to formalize a technical, economic and financial cooperation program with Spain for Spanish experts to cooperate with this organization.

The conference expressed interest in the speeding up of the work for a code of conduct for multinationals being discussed at the United Nations.

INTER-AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION BEGINS MEETING

FL311517 Bridgetown CANA in English 0104 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, 30 March (CANA)--The Miami-based Inter-American Press Association (IAPA) went into its annual midyear meeting in Barbados today, with first sessions devoted to the deliberations of the press freedom committee.

IAPA General Manager Bill Williamson said there was lively debate among the committees' various vice chairmen, as they discussed the problems facing media organizations in the Caribbean and the Americas.

The 4-day meeting will produce the associations' annual appraisal of the state of press freedom in the region and single out problem areas. Already IAPA sources here say that threats to press freedom in El Salvador, Nicaragua and Bolivia are expected to get top billing.

IAPA President Luis Nunez of Venezuela in a comment before the start of the conference singled out Cuba and Grenada as the two Caribbean countries where there was no free press.

More than 150 delegates, mainly representatives of newspapers from throughout the region, are attending the meeting. Barbados Minister of Information Senator Nigel Barrow is to address tomorrow's session.

Barbadian Minister's Address

FL010146 Bridgetown CANA in English 0021 GMT 1 Apr 81

[Excerpts] Bridgetown, Barbados, 31 Mar (CANA)--Barbados today said it believed that the press should have a good deal of freedom as well as a "modicum of control". The press should have a right to receive and to transmit information, but there had to be safeguards against abuses, the government indicated.

Government's views on the press were spelled out by Information Minister Nigel Barrow at the opening of the mid-year board of directors meeting of the Inter-American Press Association (IAPA). "...I subscribe to the approach of a mere modicum of control but lavish servings of freedom", the minister said. Senator Barrow suggested the press should be investigative but not irresponsible, analytical but without grinding an axe.

"The press has from time to time been accused of possessing that attribute of the most ancient profession in the world--power without responsibility, influence without accountability", Senator Barrow told the gathering of publishers and editors. "Thus, while few would argue against the principle that organs of government must be accountable for their decisions and actions, that accountability being to the people, the press frequently seems obsessed by the bottom line or by a particular axe which it has to grind."

The information minister noted that notions of fairness often needed to be backed up by legal rules "which offer protection against blatant lies, and guarantee a minimum standard of procedural fairness."

Senator Barrow said the press must constantly demand access to public information. "Unless the press is investigative in inclination, it hardly deserves its name", he said.

ECONOMY MINISTER ANNOUNCES ECONOMIC PACKAGE

PY020342 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0105 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Apr (TELAM)--Argentine Economy Minister Lorenzo Juan Sigaut tonight announced an economic package to solve the present economic situation. The economic package is based on a 30.4-percent devaluation of the Argentine peso which will be compensated through a plan of reimbursements, a decrease in import duties and the establishment of export duties on some products as a means to diminish the impact of the devaluation.

Using terms similar to those used in the recent message delivered by Lt Gen Viola, Sigaut noted that the basic guidelines established on 4 March 1976 will continue to be enforced and that both stages--the one that has ended and the one that is beginning--are part of the same process.

As of tomorrow, the dollar buying and selling exchange rates will be 3,050 and 3,100 Argentine pesos, respectively.

Based on these values and in compliance with the budgeted deficit and the Central Bank domestic credit, the increase of the exchange rate should oscillate about 2 percent per month.

He noted that the effects of this parity readjustment which has multiple objectives will be diminished through the enforcement of the following plan:

1. The effect of the devaluation, in respect to meats, cereal grains and their by-products, will be reduced by 12 percent, so that those products having no export duty will now have a 12 percent duty, while those now having a 12 percent reimbursement will have none.

2. As of 1 May export duties on cereal grains will experience a gradual monthly decrease until reaching zero: For winter crops this will occur on 1 November 1981 and for summer crops it will be on 1 March 1982.

3. The export products of regional economies will experience a 3 percent decrease in their export duties. By so doing they will be entirely benefiting from this devaluation. This is also valid for other products such as dairy products, wools and honey.

4. The maximum reimbursement rate for industrial products will stay at 25 percent so that they will also benefit from this devaluation.

5. But for certain agroindustrial products there will be a gradual 10-percent readjustment in their duties.

The minister said that the package of measures is designed to give an overall impulse to agricultural and industrial exports, to increase them from 15 to 30 percent in some cases.

Regarding imports, he said that another package of provisions will be implemented to reduce the impact of these measures on domestic prices, especially regarding those items whose import duties are the highest, to establish a point of balance between the industrial and agricultural sectors and to improve the real rate of exchange of the economy.

To implement the above objectives, the tariff system will be modified by reducing the highest import duties from 55 percent to 43 percent, that is 12 percent. Those items which had been paying 48 percent, will now pay only 43 percent. No reductions will be made on items which have been paying less than 43 percent.

The few items for which more than 55 percent import duties are paid will have their duties reduced by 12 points.

There will be no changes in the present system for motor vehicles, that is, their import duties will be reduced from 75 to 55 percent as of 1 January 1982. It has also been decided to revise the table of fixed values for determining import duties of motor vehicles to conform with international prices.

A commission consisting of representatives of the Ministries of Economy and Finance, Industry and Mining, Agriculture and Livestock, Commerce and Maritime Interests, and Public Works and Services has been created. The commission will be charged with evaluating and proposing the external tariff and a system for reimbursements in 180 days.

The operation and jurisdiction of this commission will be in keeping with the objectives of maintaining the economic opening program, of reducing the scope of the tariffs and reimbursements and of minimizing negative protectionist measures in productive sectors.

Sigaut indicated that the measures in the foreign exchange and tariff sectors will be presented through circulars by the Central Bank and through resolutions by the respective areas tomorrow.

At the beginning of his speech, the economy and finance minister made a point of indicating that the current difficulties have emerged partly due to the use of instruments which have yielded undesirable effects in the productive and financial apparatus. He also referred to the ostensible change in mentality in the behavior of economic sectors, and emphasized the fact that important and significant critical situations still exist which must be solved steadfastly.

The objectives of the process led by the armed forces have been clearly outlined and we must now begin the necessary readjustments, he stated.

In this regard he said that last year, and so far this year, in public expenditures, the extent of fiscal deficit and monetary expansion were not compatible with the foreign exchange policy implemented, seeking to curb the effects of inflation.

He added that this difference had undermined the confidence in our money, increasing not only the demand for foreign currency but, through a greater implicit exchange risk, it increased the interest rates, gradually at first and more accelerated later.

Concluding this review, the minister indicated he felt it necessary to prepare an adjustment program based on the multiple objectives of treating public expenditures with the conviction that no anti-inflationary measure could be maintained for long if no limit is imposed on that measure and on the state deficit, to proceed with reforming the state in accordance with a firm and honest application of the principle of the supporting role of the state, to oversee and neutralize the disloyal international trade practices to which the Argentine economy will still be linked, and to maintain the principle of freedom in all exchange, commercial and financial markets.

Explaining the measures adopted, Minister Sigaut said that they were aimed at attaining several objectives, such as encouraging regional economies, production in the wet Pampa region and industrial activity.

He also said that it was necessary to correct the negative trend in the current account of the balance of payments and to consolidate the country's foreign reserves at an adequate level, so as to make it possible to expand the economy and to strengthen the nation's decisionmaking power.

In referring to the income policy for workers in the private sector, Sigaut also said that the workers will be remunerated in accordance with the gradual recovery of economic activity and the increase in productivity.

The question of government workers' salary was mentioned by the minister when he spoke about the reduction of public expenditures. He then said that the expenditures in salaries for the public sector will be maintained within budgetary allocations, and that thus government employees will receive salary increases corresponding to the second 4-month period beginning on 1 May.

Regarding the reduction in public expenditures, Sigaut emphatically stated that the participation of public outlays in the economy must be rigorously but reasonably reduced, adding that to achieve this goal it will be necessary to reverse the heavy fiscal imbalance registered in the just ended first quarter, which amounted to more than 4 percent of the GDP.

After explaining the foreign exchange policy and the measures adopted in that area, including the elimination of foreign exchange uncertainties, the minister said that they will bring about a drop of interest rates to an adequate level both for savers and businessmen.

Regarding the tariff policy for the public sector, Sigaut noted that a readjustment plan of about 5 percent per month will be implemented during the next 3 months, and of about 3 percent per month in the following months.

At the end of his speech, which lasted 35 minutes, Sigaut voiced a stong warning to the businessmen. The companies' price policies, especially those companies which are in a position of establishing them, will be an important element to contribute to the success we all desire.

Irresponsible price policies not only will lead to an overall imbalance, he said, but when the government firmly supports a fiscal, monetary and financial discipline, the enterprises will be unable to improve their income and profits, which may become the turning point for their own permanent recovery and for overall economic and financial recovery.

Addressing the consumers, he stated that the family budgets must be defended, carefully choosing between prices and quality.

He finally addressed the workers and stated that: we will offer you a framework for economic growth in which you will be able to satisfy your legitimate aspirations.

MRS PERON RULED INNOCENT OF ACCEPTING GIFTS

PY020041 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 1 Apr 81 p 11

[Text] (NA)--Former President Maria Estela Martinez de Peron was found innocent on charges of accepting gifts during office by the Federal Criminal Appeals Court, but seven former directors of the Buenos Aires City Bank were sentenced to preventive custody for mishandling public funds, according to court officials yesterday.

The court, on decision of Judges Raul Rodriguez Araya, Fernando Mantaras and Ramon Montoya, sent to prison Damaso Sierra, Roberto Jose Klein, Demetrio Aranceta, Americo Jose Cambon, Eduardo Mangiante, Alejandro Gorostiaga, and Julio Quinteiro; and ordered seized up to 150 million pesos of the property of each one, with the exception of Quintero, who must give up 75 million pesos worth of property.

Mrs Peron was found innocent on the charges of receiving precious stones from the directors of the City Bank, worth 90,000 pesos in February of 1975, a gold necklace which cost 230,000 pesos, and two paintings valued each at 50,000 pesos. The appeals court upheld the verdict of not guilty handed down by Federal Judge Pedro Navaiz, but appealed by the district attorney.

BRIEFS

TRADE UNDER SECRETARIES--Future Minister of Trade and Maritime Interests Dr. Carlos Garcia Martinez has designated the following as under secretaries: for foreign trade and regional integration; Jorge Raul Caminotti; for commerce: Engineer Alberto de las Carreras; for technical affairs: Rolando Rafael Fazio; and for maritime interests: Rear Admiral Alberto Cesar Barbich. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1120 GMT 18 Mar 81 PY]

GARCIA MEZA, BANZER MEET, DENY DISAGREEMENT RUMORS

PY030058 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2038 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Text] La Paz, 2 Apr (LATIN)--Bolivian President Luis Garcia Meza has held a meeting with former Bolivian President Hugo Banzer, who governed Bolivia for 7 years, to deny alleged disagreements within Bolivia's nationalist forces.

According to a statement issued by Banzer which was published today by the local press, Banzer and Garcia Meza held a meeting on Wednesday evening in Santa Cruz, which is located 900 km southeast of La Paz.

According to Banzer, the main objective of the meeting was to study the means to struggle against certain sectors that are trying to divide the nationalist movement and to continue struggling against leftist and rightist extremist movements.

Last month a peasant organization charged that the Nationalist Democratic Action (ADN), a party headed by Banzer, has been plotting to overthrow President Garcia Meza.

Banzer stated: "All these rumors are being propagated with the purpose of dividing the Bolivian nationalist movement, but they are completely false. The government of the armed forces, of which I am retired member, deserves the understanding of all Bolivians.

The former president noted that his party is not active in the present government program. He did state, however, that some of its members are cooperating with the government but "on a strictly personal basis." Among them are Foreign Minister Mario Rolon Anaya and Finance Minister Jorge Tamayo Ramos.

ADN members who were members of the National Legislative Advisery Commission (CONAL) have successively resigned their posts.

CONAL is an organization that has been created by the Garcia Meza government. It is made up of several retired military officers, businessmen and bank executives.

CONAL members have reported that several ADN members who were also members of CONAL have resigned that the only ADN member who has remained within the organization is Fernando Valle, who is executive secretary of CONAL.

However, the CONAL board has not issued any official information in this regard. It has only reported that these members will be replaced.

STATE OF EMERGENCY SOON TO FIGHT DRUG TRAFFICKING

PY021947 Paris AFP in Spanish 1505 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Text] La Paz, 2 Apr (AFP)--President Luis Garcia Meza has announced in Santa Cruz that the National Reconstruction Government will declare the entire country in a state of emergency so that all Bolivians many contribute to the struggle against drug trafficking.

General Garcia Meza attended the graduation ceremony of the new air force pilots accompanied by Gen Waldo Bernal, air force commander and aeronautics minister.

The president asserted that those persons under arrest who are charged with drug trafficking will be placed at the disposal of ordinary courts so that they may be punished in accordance with the law.

When questioned on a possible change in the Interior Ministry, General Garcia Meza stated: we are not going to replace current Interior Minister Gen Celso Torrelio, but we are going to implement a reconstruction program within the ministry.

Gen Waldo Bernal, on his part, asserted that the National Reconstruction Government is strongly united and that the armed forces control the country's development by imposing law and justice.

He added that the government is fulfilling its main duties in order to pull the country out of the situation inherited from politicians with abominable instincts.

He ended by stating that two very competent and well-equipped organizations have been created to exterminate drug trafficking and that Bolivia is only waiting for a similar measure to be taken abroad in order to coordinate this campaign.

General Bernal added that the government will continue to advocate the basic principle of state security and to guarantee the citizens' freedom within the limits established by the constitution.

Former Officials Accused

FY010036 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2103 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Excerpts] La Paz, 31 Mar (LATIN)--The Bolivian Interior Ministry today accused high-ranking officials of the administration of former Presidents Walter Guevara Arce and Lidia Gueiler of having exercised pressure to intensify the coca trade aimed at processing cocaine.

The Interior Ministry, in a communique released today, states that in the last 3 years, high-ranking officials of the Presidency put pressure, through notes, on many people who operated in the purchasing and sale of coca leaves to send the coca to the cocaine processing plants.

The official communique was released after former ministers under the administration of Guevara Arce and Gueiler denied their alleged links with drug trafficking during their term in office.

The Interior Ministry communique also states that during 1979, 8,000 tons of coca leaves were shipped to several cities around the country with this type of complicity.

The communique states: The government of the armed forces that took over the government on 17 July 1980 inherited an organization that operated the marketing of the coca and the processing and transportation of the drug to the international market.

The communique was released a few hours after President Garcia Meza announced the replacement of Col Luis Arce Gomez, commander of the military school, so that he can defend himself on charges, in Bolivia and abroad, of drug trafficking.

According to reports from Caracas, Col Norberto Salomon has also been accused of drug trafficking.

President Garcia Meza yesterday announced that Salomon, who was military attache in the Bolivian Embassy in Venezuela, will also defend himself.

President Garcia Meza has also reaffirmed the armed forces' firm purpose of erradicating drug traffic from the country.

SECOND OPPOSITION CONGRESSMAN'S HOUSE BOMBED

PY012013 Paris AFP in Spanish 1329 GMT 1 Apr 81

[Excerpt] Rio de Janeiro, 1 Apr (AFP)--A bomb explosion early this morning destroyed the windows and the door of the house of Brazilian Democratic Movement Party (PMDB) Federal Deputy Marcelo Cerqueira, but did not cause any injuries.

This was the second attack against the residence of the opposition congressman, according to a police spokesman who added that the deputy's wife and 5-month old child were in the house at the time of the explosion.

Protest in Congress

PY020204 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 1 Apr 81

[From the "Congressional Report"]

[Text] Speaking in the name of the Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party [PMDB] Deputy Osvaldo Macedo today informed the Chamber of Deputies of the attack perpetrated against Deputy Marcelo Cerqueira. He then read a note released by the PMDB bloc in the chamber pointing out the overall insecurity experienced by Brazilian citizens due to the fact that terrorists continue to go unpunished. The note contends that all this is not only undermining the political opening announced by President Figueiredo, but also his own credibility.

Deputy Macedo said that, along with the intensified harassment of union leaders and journalists by the government, Brazilians are experiencing terrorist actions masterminded by the government's underworld which appear to be coordinated nationwide. Fears to this effect were prompted by the fact that at a recent press conference, Gen Milton Tavares displayed rifles which he claimed had been seized from members of international communist organizations.

BRIEFS

FINNISH TRADE MINISTER--Rio de Janeiro (BRAZIL HERALD)--The Finnish Foreign Trade Minister Esko Rekola, who arrived in Brazil on 26 March, will come to Rio de Janeiro on 2 April at the head of a delegation of 18 trade officials and businessmen. He will meet Brazilian counterparts, and will discuss a proposed air traffic agreement between the two countries. [Rio de Janeiro BRAZIL HERALD in English 1 Apr 81 p 2 PY]

AMBASSADOR TO VATICAN--Brasilia--Antonio Correia do Lago has been appointed the Brazilian ambassador to the Vatican. Lago has been the Brazilian ambassador to Uruguay since 1974. [Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 17 Mar 81 p 3 PY]

SAUDIS INCREASE TELEPHONE ORDERS--The consortium made up of Philips and Ericsson do Brazil, which is expanding and modernizing the Saudi Arabian telephone system, has received an extra order for more than 200,000 telephone lines estimated at 30 billion cruzeiros. The two companies initially received an order in 1977 to supply 476,000 lines, and two more orders the following year for a total of 300,000 lines. Philips will install approximately 650,000 lines out of the 1 million included in the project. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 13 Mar 81 p 18 PY]

GENERAL TO RESERVES--Brasilia--President Figueiredo has transferred Brig Gen Gustavo Moraes Rego, commander of the 6th Military Region, to the reserves. [Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 17 Mar 81 p 16 PY]

PRESIDENT WARNS OF CONFLICT WITH ARGENTINA

PY030103 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Apr 81

[Text] President Pinochet has made a clear warning regarding the conflict with Argentina. He stated: Today we are living in peace, thanks to the mediation, but this does not mean that we should disregard our physical preparation and the condition of our soldiers. On the contrary, we must be prepared more than ever.

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS REJECT COMMUNIST VIOLENCE

PY021655 Paris AFP in Spanish 1675 GMT 1 Apr 81

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 1 Apr (AFP)--The Chilean Christian Democratic Party (PDC) here today rejected the armed insurrection advocated by the Communist Party (PC) [PCC] as a means to oppose President Augusto Pinochet's government. Leader Juan Hamilton stated that we will only resort to peaceful means, such as evidence, persuasion, dialogue and social harmony, as a means to defend the democratic principles.

Hamilton, former senator and former minister of state during Eduardo Frei's government (1964-70), was interviewed by the Santiago magazine HOY on the new position of the Chilean communists, whom he accused of being two-faced. He stated that on one hand they appear to share the initiatives of the Democrats (the opposition) but on the other hand they advocate violence.

Recent news from socialist countries report on statements by prominent leaders of the PCC supporting armed struggle. The activities of the PCC , as well as those of all other leftist parties, were banned when General Pinochet assumed the presidency 7 and 1/2 years ago. The position of the communists unleashed controversies in the sector which opposes the Chilean Government. The Marxist groups and those of a Christian trend are the leading opposition groups.

The PDC leader stated that he decidedly rejects any kind of violence as a method of political action. According to Hamilton, a peaceful means is feasible in Chile: I believe that it is possible and that the struggle will be effective.

The politician added that slavery has been done away with. Indira Gandhi [as received] achieved India's independence and Martin Luther King was successful in his struggle against racial discrimination through peaceful means. In the past few months Walesa and his Solidarity union in Poland have also given us an example.

Hamilton also pointed out that in no way does he support the hundreds of violent acts perpetrated in the past few months against the Chilean regime. He ended by stating that he condemns them and is quite certain that if this violent strategy succeeds and imposes itself, the Democrats would still be left on the sidelines, as happened in the success of the Sandinists in Nicaragua.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS DENY COUP D'ETAT PLOT

Government Minister

PA010239 Paris AFP in Spanish 2206 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] Quito, 31 Mar (AFP)--Government Minister Carlos Feraud Blum categorically denied today a report from Miami of an alleged coup led by him. "It is absolutely outrageous, absurd and ridiculous. I am not a traitor. I am serving President Jaime Roldos, with whom I have a long standing friendship. I am loyal and will remain so to this government," Feraud Blum asserted.

In a statement to the television, he denounced a press campaign unleashed in Guayaquil aimed at creating the proper climate to destabilize the government. "The armed forces is doing its duty, it is aware of its responsibility and must give up any idea to try to seize power," Minister Feraud Blum pointed out.

Finally, he referred to several economic measures, among them a threefold increase in the price of gasoline, that the government is going to implement.

Joint Command Chief

PA020437 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Apr 81

[Text] The chief of the joint command of the armed forces, Rear Adm Raul Sorroza Encalada, emphatically denied reports about a possible coup d'etat being prepared by the armed forces. He described such stories as street rumors from unscrupulous elements, as he reaffirmed the unity of the armed forces.

In a brief news conference at the legislative palace, the ranking military leader avoided commenting on the border issue, particularly on the incursion of Colombian M-19 [19 April Movement] guerrillas into Ecuadorean territory. He replied affirmatively to a question as to whether it would be proper to declare at this time that the armed forces could not be thinking of a coup d'etat, paricularly during these moments.

Finally he denied having any knowledge of changes in the military commands, as has been rumored unofficially.

BORDER REOPENING WITH PERU INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED

PA020408 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Apr 81

[Machala correspondent's report--recording]

[Excerpt] The reopening of the border with Peru was suspended this morning until further notice, according to an announcement by the governor of the province, Bolivar Minuche Jara, who indicated the measure responds to a decision of Government Minister Dr Carlos Feraud Blum.

BRIEFS

COOPERATION DOCUMENT--A document on aspects of trade and technological exchange between Ecuador and Sweden has been signed at the Ecuadorean Foreign Ministry. According to the Foreign Ministry, the possibility of Swedish participation in infrastructure projects such as urban transportation in Quito and Guayaquil, reforestation of 7,500 hectares in the Monte Cristi area, cooperation with the Ecuadorean Housing Bank and cooperation with studies for agriculture development in the Guayas River basin was discussed during the rounds of talks on economic, commerical and technical matters. [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 23 Mar PA]

PRESIDENT OPENS 1981 SESSION OF CONGRESS

PY021601 Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 2 Apr 81 p 6-8

[Text of speech delivered by President Alfredo Stroessner to Congress on opening 1981 session on 1 April in Asuncion]

[Excerpts] Honorable members of the national congress:

In compliance with the provisions of Article 180, clause 10, of the constitution, I am here to brief you on the activities of the government from 1 April 1980 to date.

We can look toward the country's future with unbounded optimism. Our vigorous reality is the fruit of the peace that we have known how to strengthen and we are ready to defend it with all our energy, without ever retreating in the struggle against the elements that oppose the cause of national greatness.

We have exchanged the ignominious banner of anarchy for the banner of freedom with order. We are not interested in any type of democracy that implies the weakness of free institutions and sterile demagogery. For us democracy is the authority of popular will within the framework of the law. For us freedom is the compatibility of rights with a view to achieving common welfare.

Our motto is: Work with patriotism. This is the government's duty and it is also the duty of all those citizens who love the nation.

From the first day on which we assumed the responsibility of the supreme command of the republic, we have been determined in maintaining our management at the height of the exemplary virtues of the Paraguayan people.

With the people's decided and firm support, we have given stimulus and meaning to the peaceful revolution that is an authentic process of justification regarding human dignity, progress and social justice.

We work with an immense faith in the nation's destiny. On the basis of this moral force that encourages us, we have overcome difficulties and we have broadened the country's horizon. Nothing remains of the pessimism and frustration we nurtured in the misgovernments of the past when basic responsibilities were abandoned and social disquiet was ignored.

Our constant concern is to always be deeply aware of popular sentiments and aspirations. It is inconceivable that we should govern without pernamently sounding out the national will. We understand power only as an instrument for developing common welfare.

We came to power with the vote of the people in free elections, through the clarity of our political platform and through our passionate work for the national welfare. The conduct of certain bad Paraguayans is undignified and disgraceful. They, knowing they will never obtain the vote of the people because they pursue antinational and antipopular plans, travel abroad to seek support through the defamation of their own fatherland. Thus they were, thus they are and thus the legionaires will always be--always plotting against the supreme interests of the Paraguayan people. We reaffirm that the lack of popular support cannot be supplanted with any other type of support. It is the adhesion of the great national majority that honors us and commits us never to betray the confidence of our fellow citizens.

In order to continue to be free men and for the good of the fatherland we will continue to practice a democracy without communism--in other words, a democracy without lies, deceit, crime, attacks against public freedom or national sovereignty.

The peaceful nature of the Paraguayan people was disrupted last year by a savage act of international communism. In effect, on 17 September Maj Gen Anastasio Domoza Debayle, former Nicaraguan president and his aides, Jou Baittiner and Cesar Gallardo, were murdered in a cowardly manner on an Asuncion Street.

This serious incident, so foreign to our way of life and our Christian sentiments, was severely condemned and repudiated by all the country's honest citizens.

This monstrous incident is futher proof of communist perversity, of the criminal intentions of its plans and of the savageness of its procedures.

The repulsive criminal incident confirmed reports the government had on the backgrounds of Jose Nunez Rodriguez and Nidia Escobar Lopez, who were at the head of the diplomatic mission of the current Nicaraguan Government, and who were immediately expelled from our country. Despite this measure, the monstrous murder of former President Somoza could not be stopped. And later a member of the junta of that same country, which planned and financed the crime, brazenly permitted himself to make insulting remarks about our national honor, and due to this the government decided to suspend diplomatic relations with that regime.

The unpatriotic, sanguinary and despotive individuals of communism are enemies of the Paraguyan nation. With the firmness of our convictions, based on nationalism and respect for human dignity, we will continue to reject on any field the malevolent activities of the agents of terror and of those who cause the very worst moral miseries. Because they are at the service of the designs of an enslaving imperialism and because they pursue the destruction of the spiritual and ethical values of our race, such individuals will always encounter the brave, energetic and conclusive answer of the people of the Colorado Party and the nation's armed forces.

From the constitutional government we are defending, and will continue to defend, the right of the people to strengthen their happiness on the basis of peace and democratic coexistence. The country has a calm and ordered develpment. The guarantees contained in the republic's laws are fully in force. All useful activities for the nation are being developed with the best of prospects.

In the face of a perplexed humanity due to crises of every type, to the satanic destruction caused by violence and to the overflow of the most irrational passages, the Paraguayan people strengthen their conviction with regard to the value of our peace. And from this same conviction there emerges the categorical will of not committing themselves to those who wish to exchange the enforcement of the law for the implementation of chaos.

The attack suffered the day before yesterday by the U.S. president, Mr Ronald Reagan, to the surprise and astonishment of world public opinion, is dramatic proof of the violence and terrorism that is extending throughout the world. The serious incident, in which the press secretary and two policemen were also wounded, was energetically condemend by the people and Government of Paraguay, who expressed their solidarity with the illustrious leader of the great northern nation.

It is necessary to remain alert to the ways of penetration used by the international communism for the dissemination of is ideology of hate and subjugation.

To look after our peace is the same as protecting our freedom. The security of the institutions and the individual is among the basic objectives in a time such as the one we are livng in which is full of challenges for the capability of democratic states to make their sovereignty, independence and way of life prevail.

If our patritism has never been faulted for weakness, then our democracy can never be faulted for culpable weakness. It is not admissable to fall back upon rights that are contained in the constitution in order to encourage situations that will disrupt social peace.

It is the government's unrenounceable responsibility, and that of all citizens who are aware of their basic duties, to see that Marxist subversion does not introduce confusion and unbelief in the country's political, social, economic and cultural sectors. The media must be jealous of their freedom, but they also have the duty not to become a vehicle for totalitarian machinations which tend to provoke artificial crises. Public opinion has the right to be informed with objectivity and to be guided with noble ideas. The exercise of press freedom is compatible with the practice of the duties of patriotism.

We will make every effort in the defense of the state of right. Those who adjust their actions to the law will continue to receive the firm support of the authorities in their work, their freedom and in all their legitimate aspirations. Those who assume attitudes that are contrary to coexistence and order will learn of all the energy the public powers are capable of in guaranteeing the rights of the human individual and the stability of our democratic organization.

STROESSNER EXPRESSES CONDOLENCES TO REAGAN

PY311508 Asuncion Radio Primero de Marzo in Spanish 1450 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] President Alfredo Stroessner has sent a telegram to U.S. President Ronald Reagan. Its text is as follows:

Your excellency, the president of the United States, Ronald Reagan, Washington, DC:

In the name of the people, the government of my fatherland and my own, I express the most energetic condemnation of the criminal attack that your excellency has suffered. I formulate the best wishes for your very quick recovery, a desire that the Republic of Paraguay fervently shares with all of the free world.

Signed: Gen Alfredo Stroessner, president of the Republic of Paraguay.

This telegram was sent yesterday to the White House.

Interior Minister's Opinion

PY011514 Asuncion Television Teledifusora Paraguaya in Spanish 2330 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Interview with Paraguayan Interior Minister Sabino Augusto Montanaro on 31 March--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Minister Montanaro, what is your opinion of the attack on Ronald Reagan yesterday?

[Answer] I would like to repeat what I have said to other stations and to many people yesterday and today. I believe this is a horrible criminal attack and a serious crime because it has taken place in a country such as the United States, where this is not the first time an attack of this nature has occurred. This proves what international terrorism is like. These are the people who appeal to human rights and international organizations looking for protection. This is the type of horrible aggression committed against President Ronald Reagan.

We deeply regret this attack and particularly wish him a quick recovery and a prompt return to the White House, hoping that the attack will not have major consequences and that peace, deeply obstructed by a crime of this nature, will again prevail in that country.

BRIEFS

NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR--Odd Gerhard Jakobsen, new Norwegian ambassador to Paraguay, presented his credentials to President Alfredo Storessner this morning. [Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 20 Mar 81 p 8 PY]

BELAUNDE PROMISES SUPPORT FOR BOLIVIAN DEMANDS

PA012301 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 25 Mar 81 p 7

[Text] President Fernando Belaunde Terry yesterday promised the Peruvian Government and people's support for the aspirations of Bolivia to obtain an outlet to the sea.

This he said yesterday during the ceremony in which Jorge Escobari Cusicanqui, Bolivia's new ambassador to Peru, presented his credentials. At the same time, he reiterated that our country will continue giving all possible facilities to Bolivia regarding the use of ports and other means of communications.

Belaunde also stressed the importance of promoting the programs for the use of the border basins between the two countries such as the Titicaca. Belaunde previously had referred to the common historic ties between their peoples and he also mentioned the fact that Bolivia is a member of three important integration projects: the Andean Pact, the Amazon region and La Plata basin.

In the final portion of the speech he delivered in the Gold Room of the Presidential Palace, President Belaunde reiterated that "the Bolivian Government and people should know that Peru is not going to stop at anything to help our sister nation."

Peruvian Foreign Minister Javier Arias Stella, President Belaunde and Ambassador Escobari, whom for the second time hold a diplomatic post in Peru, continued talking for a long while.

Meanwhile, Ambassador Escobari Cusicanqui delivered a good will message from Bolivian President Luis Garcia Meza in which he says that he is sure that the Peruvian democratic regime will be a guarantee of the best relations between the two countries. Ambassador Escobari Cusicanqui also praised the integration efforts carried out by Peru in the area of communications such as the secondary highway. Finally he thanked Peru for its support for the Bolivian people in their struggle to obtain an outlet to the sea.

Letter Sent to Bolivian Leader

PY020218 La Paz Illimani Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Excerpt] Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry has sent a letter to Bolivian President Luis Garcia Meza in which he expresses the desire of the Peruvian Government to strengthen the present cordial relations between the two countries.

In the letter--which was sent in response to a letter issued by the Bolivian president--President Fernando Belaunde Terry notes that it is the purpose of the present Peruvian administration to strengthen the present cordial relations between the two countries at the bilaterial level and within the integrationist framework of the Andean regional group.

FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUES BORDER DISPUTE COMMUNIQUE

PY021543 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0410 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Text] Lima, 1 Apr (LATIN)--According to a communique released tonight by the Foreign Ministry, Peru has reaffirmed to the guarantors of the Rio de Janeiro Protocol that its border with Ecuador divides the Condor Mountain Range in such a way that the eastern slope belongs to Peru and the western slope to Ecuador.

At the same time, the Peruvian Foreign Ministry reiterated that Ecuador refuses to set up landmarks along the still unmarked 78 km of the 1,600-km border between the two countries.

The communique on Peru's position was delivered to the diplomatic representatives of the guarantor countries--the Argentine, Brazilian, Chilean and U.S. ambassadors.

In its memorandum, the Peruvian Government thanked the guarantor countries for the efforts which they displayed during the recent Peruvian-Ecuadorean border conflict.

Foreign Minister Javier Arias Stella delivered the document, which reviewed the talks between Peruvian and Ecuadorean military delegations--talks which led to the cease-fire--and stated Peru's position as a result of these negotiations.

According to the memorandum, Peru...will maintain military units on the eastern slope of the Condor Range which is in Cenepa District, Bagua Province, Amazonas Department.

The document made it clear that...the summit of the Condor Mountain Range. ..separates and divides the positions of the two countries on both sides of the above-mentioned mountain range.

Therefore, the line along the summit of the Condor Mountain Range is the border between Peru and Ecuador in this area, and it corresponds exactly to that which has been technically established by Brazilian expert Dias de Aguiar in accordance with the 1942 Rio de Janeiro Protocol, the memorandum delivered to the guarantors stated.

The memorandum added that it is obvious that this border corresponds to the small 78-km portion left unmarked in the Condor Mountain Range because of Ecuador's refusal to continue demarcation in 1950.

ARIAS STELLA ON REPORTED ECUADOREAN BORDER OPENING

PY022240 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0434 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Text] Lima, 1 Apr (LATIN)--Foreign Minister Javier Arias Stella stated today in a press conference that the Peruvian Government will do everything possible to normalize border trade with Ecuador.

The Ecuadorean Government today made official the reopening of the border at the coast with Peru, closed since 28 January at the beginning of clashes between troops from both countries due to a border conflict.

The foreign minister stated that the Ecuadorean decision has been made unilaterally since Peru has never closed its border. Border trade allows the subsistence of at least 100,000 persons who live either in the Peruvian region of Tumbes or in the Ecuadorean zone of Machala and Huaquillas.

Arias commented on the holding of the ninth Peruvian-Ecuadorean Integration Fair to be held in the Peruvian Province of Piura, near Tumbes, between 22 July and 5 August, and that the government is taking all necessary steps to ensure the fair.

We are giving it all the necessary support so that it can be successful, the foreign minister stated, while he also expressed his optimism that many delegations will come from Ecuador.

The fair must be a demonstration that we continue with the same spirit of unity among peoples and of joint effort for development, he stated.

The foreign minister made these remarks while talking to reporters at the end of farewell ceremony for a high-ranking Foreign Ministry official who left for Washington on an official mission.

PANAMA PROPOSES INFORMAL CUBAN-COLOMBIAN MEETING

PA012106 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1715 GMT 1 Apr 81

[Text] The Panamanian foreign minister, Dr Jorge Illueca, today outlined in Venezuela the possibility of holding an informal meeting of the Colombian and Cuban ambassadors to seek conciliatory solutions to the problems between the two nations through peaceful and friendly means.

Illueca told the press that Panama's stance in the wake of the incidents that caused the suspension of diplomatic ties between Cuba and Colombia is in line with Bolivarian beliefs.

We believe Latin American problems must have Latin American solutions. That is why the Foreign Ministry of Panama thought of an exploratory talk among the members of this community that have relations with both Colombia and Cuba, explained Illueca.

In addition, the Panamanian Foreign Ministry emphatically denied that Panama had requested a meeting of the OAS to put either Cuba or any other country on the docket. We have discussed the possibility of holding an informal meeting at the United Nations of Ambassador Indalecio Lievano Aguirre [of Colombia] and Cuban Ambassador Raul Roa, in the presence of our ambassador, Carlos Ozores, who was also a foreign minister, and other ambassadors to seek the reaction of their foreign ministries and conciliatory solutions through peaceful and friendly means, said Illueca.

PRESS LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN REGARDING GUYANA

PA012205 Paris AFP in Spanish 2348 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] Caracas, 31 Mar (AFP)--On the occasion of Guyana President Forbes Burnham's visit to Caracas on Thursday and Friday, the Venezuelan press has launched an information campaign concerning the Venezuelan territorial claims to Guyana.

Newspapers and magazines are "refreshing" the minds of the Venezuelans--who are hypersensitive when dealing with border issues--with reports on the historical and legal rights of Venezuela over the 159,000 square km east of its border which is presently occupied by the Cooperative Republic of Guyana.

With documents in hand, Venezuela has explained that this territory was snatched from them by the British Empire in the last century when what is now known as Guayana was British Guiana.

The press has begun to publish statements of Benezuelan politicians asking the Christian Democratic government not to extend the "Port-of-Spain Protocol" (Trinidad).

This protocol, which will expire in 1982, froze the Venezuelan claim in 1970, but it will be the main subject of the talks between Presidents Burnham and Luis Herrera Campins this week.

Venezuelan newspapers sent reporters to Georgetown to gather the opinion of the government and people and to find out about Guyana.

Their reports show a dislike toward Venezuela among the African minority, understanding among the Hindustani majority, and dissatisfaction with Burnham's regime, whose alleged corruption was widely reported here.

CONTROVERSY ARISES OVER GUYANA OIL CONCESSIONS

PA011714 Paris AFP in Spanish 2252 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Excerpts] Caracas, 31 Mar (AFP)--The oil concessions granted by Guyana to Canada in the western portion of its territory violates a sovereignty and border agreement with Venezuela, analysts and political leaders have said here.

The news about these concessions has rekindled the fire of the border conflict 2 days before the visit of Guyanese President Forbes Burnham, who is expected here Thursday.

The newspaper DIARIO DE CARACAS published a report from the GUYANA CHRONICLE of Georgetown on negotiations between the Government of Guyana and the Canadian Home Oil Co. This company will start drilling in October in the region of the Rupununi River, based on positive geophysical evidence on the existence of hydrocarbons. The Rupununi River is located on the Guyana Essequibo, named after the Essequibo River, with an area of 159,000 square km and which Venezuela claims.

This region, which is two-thirds of the territory of Guyana, was seized from Venezuela by Britain during the 19th century. The Venezuelan Foreign Ministry claims and says it has documents to prove it.

Venezuela considers that the concessions violate a Venezuelan-Guyanese agreement which establishes that none of the two parties will make any move to reaffirm their sovereignty over the territory in dispute until the border problem is definitely solved.

The concessions granted to a third nation is a clear case of the exercise of sovereignty by Guyana, thus violating the agreement.

Ramon Tenorio, a centrist deputy who sympathizes with the Christian Democratic government, urged Venezuela to submit a disapproval of the oil concessions at international organizations.

Jose Rodriguez, one of the brains behind the government's foreign policy and a Christian Democratic deputy, says that the protocol, called the Port-of-Spain (Trinidad) Protocol, which postponed the Venezuelan claims from 1970 until 1982, should not be renewed. Instead of renewing it, it should be reopened to try to solve the matter once and for all.

On the left, the country's third political force after the Social Democrats and Christian Democrats, it is believed that Venezuela should assert its rights peacefully in order not to confront a Third World country.

The Social Democrats hold a similar position, while the government prefers a national consultation on the issue and to undertake on Thursday the first talks with Burnham.

PRESIDENT HERRERA CAMPINS TO MEXICO 6 APRIL

FL021733 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1721 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Text] Caracas, Venezuela, 21 Mar--Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins will begin an official 5-day visit to Mexico on Monday, 6 April. He will meet with his Mexican counterpart, Jose Lopez Portillo.

Herrera Campins' trip was authorized last night by the Venezuelan Congress. It is expected that the two presidents will examine existing bilateral agreements, although a review of the explosive Central American situation is not ruled out.

REAGAN-LOPEZ PORTILLO MEETING NOT CANCELLED

PA010435 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0002 GMT 1 Apr 81

[Text] Mexico City, 31 Mar (EFE)--The attempt on the life of U.S. President Ronald Reagan so far has not altered the plans for the meeting he will have with his Mexican colleague Jose Lopez Portillo at the end of April.

Sources from the Mexican Presidency reported that so far they have not received any notice from the U.S. Government calling off the meeting.

The Reagan-Lopez Portillo double meeting should be held according to what the two governments agreed on 27 and 28 April in Tiajuana, Mexico; and in San Diego, the United States, respectively.

FOREIGN MINISTRY NOTES NO NEW U.S. ENVOY YET NAMED

FL022327 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2310 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Text] Mexico City, 2 Apr (NOTIMEX)--The U.S. Government has not submitted any request for Mexican authorities to grant consent to a new U.S. diplomatic representative in Mexico. The official spokesman of Mexico's Foreign Relations Secretariat (Ministry) made this statement today. As long as a request for approval is not formalized to the Mexican Government, the Foreign Secretariat cannot make any comments in this regard, the spokesman added.

For its part, the U.S. Embassy in this country has said that it has received no information regarding the appointment of a new ambassador. The diplomatic mission spokesman said Ambassador Julian Nava will officially complete his assignment on 5 April.

AGRICULTURAL-LIVESTOCK GROWTH HIGHEST IN 17 YEARS

FL182224 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2207 GMT 18 Mar 81

[By Enrique Alvarez Manilla]

[Excerpts] Minatitlan, Veracruz, 18 Mar (NOTIMEX)--Francisco Merino Rabago, secretary (minister) of agriculture and hydraulic resources, has said that as opposed to diminishing crops throughout the world, there is great optimism in Mexico's agricultural-livestock situation. He added that the sector's growth rate in 1980 was the highest in 17 years.

The peasants' response to incentives granted by the Mexican Food System (SAM) made recovery possible with a 7-percent growth rate. He was speaking at a working meeting here chaired by President Jose Lopez Portillo, who was accompanied by his Panamanian counterpart, Aristides Royo, who is paying an official visit to Mexico.

Moments after the president's tour of the installations of the Cosoleacaque petrochemical complex, Merino Rabago explained the various plans that will be undertaken in Veracruz during the second phase of the SAM with the creation of 34 promotion subcommittees.

The agriculture secretary indicated that Mexico is not going to lose through the mouth what it worked so hard to gain with its energy sources, adding that last year's record in grains and oils shows the effectiveness of the SAM strategy.

Producers, he said, know that shared risk already is a structured institution in the agricultural-livestock development law which will be extended to all the country's states.

BELIZE

GOVERNMENT DECLARES STATE OF EMERGENCY, CURFEW

FL030210 Belize City Domestic Service in English 0100 GMT 3 Apr 81

[Excerpts] A state of emergency has been declared. The proclamation was made this afternoon by his excellency the governor on the advice of the premier and security committee. The declaration was made in accordance with the constitution of Belize. It is intended to secure the maintenance of law and order, protection of life and property and the maintenance of essential supplies to the public, under the state of emergency, the governor has the power to issue regulations with the force of law.

All workers are urged to return to work immediately to ensure that the situation returns to normal as soon as possible. Members of tthe public are asked to cooperate at all times with the security forces.

Following the declaration of the state of emergency this afternoon, (?another) statement was issued. The statement reads as follows:

It has been announced that the governor has declared a state of emergency. What does this mean? The power of the governor to declare a state of emergency is contained in section 62 of the constitution of self-government of Belize, in other words, the order of the constitution of Belize number 33 of 1963. Said constitution says that if the governor is satisfied that a public emergency exists, he may so declare by a proclamation. Once the proclamation has been made, the governor may make such laws as appear necessary for securing the public safety, maintaining order and suppressing rebellion and riots, as well as for maintaining supplies and services essential to the life of the community.

Under a state of emergency, such regulations made by the governor are complete and must be obeyed regardless of any other existing law to the contrary. The constitution also declares that the powers thus conferred in the governor can only be exercised by him after consultation with the premier. The governor must consult with Premier Price before making any regulations under a state of emergency.

A state of emergency does not mean that the Government of Belize ceases to exist. The elected Government of Belize which represents the majority of the Belizean people elected to office in free, democratic elections remains in office and continues to exercise authority and responsibilities. All ministers remain in office and remain authorized to continue the business of their ministries (?as usual).

The proclamation of the state of emergency recognizes that extreme measures must be taken to protect the safety of our people. But it is not the intention that this state should last for a long time. As soon as the situation returns to normal, the governor will be advised to end the state of emergency.

Action Explained

PA030423 Belize City Domestic Service in English 0233 GMT 3 Apr 81

[Excerpts] In connection with the present state of emergency which affects the entire country of Belize, nobody is to be on the street between the hours of 2100 tonight and 0500 tomorrow morning without an authorized permit from the commissioner of police or other authorized person.

Anybody found on the street during these hours will be arrested without question; therefore, it is in the interest of all citizens to remain in their homes after 2100 and 0500 the following day, as long as the curfew remains in force.

This is not the first time that a state of emergency has been declared in Belize. Citizens will recall that after Hurricane Cathy in 1961 when lawless elements were looting and destroying property in Belize, a similar state of emergency was declared.

The elected representatives of the people will continue their term of office as happened in the 1960's when, despite the declaration of a state of emergency in 1961, elections followed in 1964.

A state of emergency, then, is a device which is used to protect the lives and property of the people when ordinary safeguards are insufficient to do so. As soon as the situation returns to normal, the state of emergency will be ended.

Regulations Issued

FL030320 Belize City Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Apr 81

[Text] Regulations made by the governor in the exercise of the powers conferred upon him by subsection 2 of section 62 of the British Honduras Constitution Ordinance 1963, and after consultation with the premier. These regulations may be cited as the state of emergency curfew and looting regulations 1981.

All persons, other than persons on official government duty or persons with a permit in writing issued either by the commissioner of police or by any person authorized by him to issue such permits, shall be and remain within their home or places of abode between the hours of 9 o'clock at night and 5 o'clock of the following morning. Any person who infringes or contravenes the provisions of subregulation 1 of this regulation shall be guilty of an offense and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding $250 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months, or to both such fines and imprisonment.

Any person who, without lawful excuse the burden of proof of which shall lie on him, is at any time found within any uninhabited building or within any shop, warehouse or other place of business not open to the public or entering or leaving any such buildings, shops, warehouse or other place of business may be arrested without warrant and shall be guilty of an offense and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding $500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 1 year, or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Any person who is suspected of having in his possession any article of value or any merchantable goods obtained from any buildings, shops, warehouse or other place of business as is mentioned in subregulation 1 of this regulation, may be stopped and searched and if any article or goods is found in such person which the person making the search has reasonable cause to suspect has been obtained from such buildings, shops, warehouse or other place of business, he may be arrested. Any person having in his possession any article of value or any merchantable goods obtained from any such buildings, shops, warehouse or other place of business as is mentioned in subregulation 1 of this regulation, shall be guilty of an offense and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding $500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 1 year or to both such fine and imprisonment. The burden of proving that any such article or goods did not come from such buildings, shops, warehouse or other place of business, shall lie on the person charged.

These regulations shall come into force on the 2d day of April 1981.

This concerns the state of emergency public meetings and processions regulations: For the purpose of these regulations, meetings means any gathering or assembly of five or more persons convened or held for any purposes, which include any political purpose but does not include any gathering or assembly convened and held exclusively for the lawful purpose of any public body or any gathering or assembly convened and held exclusively for social, cultural, charitable, recreational, religious, professional, commercial or industrial purposes.

Public meetings means any meeting held in a public place. Public place means any place to which, whether for time being or at all times, the public or any members of the public are entitled or permitted to have access whether on payment or otherwise.

No persons shall hold, organize or attend any public meeting in Belize unless such meetings shall have been permitted by the governor or any persons authorized by him. Subject to provisions of subregulation 2 of this regulations, no persons shall hold, organize or take part in any procession in Belize. The provisions of subregulation 1 of these regulations shall not apply to any funeral or other religious procession.

Any person who contravenes the provisions of regulation 3 or 4 of these regulations may be arrested without warrant and shall be guilty of an offense and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding $500 or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding 6 months, or to both such fine and imprisonment.

The control of public meetings and public processions ordinance 1967 shall be suspended for so long as the present state of emergency continues. These regulations shall come into force on the 2d day of April 1981.

Made by the governor the second day of April 1981.

CANA REPORTS PROTEST RIOTS, LABOR PROBLEMS

FL021932 Bridgetown CANA in English 1916 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Excerpts] Belmopan, Belize, 2 Apr (CANA)--New rioting has broken out in Belize and industrial problems are multiplying for the government of Premier George Price in a flood of opposition anger over the 11 March British-Guatemala agreement on the latter's claim to this country.

Riot police went into action in Belize City yesterday and used tear gas against demonstrators outside the radio station. Opposition groups, strikers and unions are demanding that Premier Price put to a national referendum the agreement under which Guatemala has been granted certain concessions in exchange for relinquishing its century-old territorial claim. The concessions include Guatemalan occupation of two small Belizean islands in the Caribbean Sea, a sea corridor and rights to its seabed, free port facilities in Belize City, transit rights on a main Belizean roadway and others.

Renewed riots in Belize City follow a strike by the Public Service Union this week. Some members of the union refused to report to work and proceeded in picket government departments in Belize City and in Belmopan on Tuesday and yesterday, the union's decision to go on strike was conveyed to the premier's office in a letter dated 27 March. The letter informed government of a resolution passed at a meeting demanding that government put the heads of the London agreement in a referendum and if not the union would go on strike indefinitely.

Responding to the union's demand, the government reminded them of its resolution passed by the national assembly of Friday, 27 March, committing government to consult the people of Belize on a final treaty.

The union was also informed that government was prepared to go even further and to allow a leftist representative of the people to assist in giving national leadership, and in the exercise of this purpose, to be afforded time over Radio Belize. In spite of government's response, the union called a strike beginning on Tuesday morning and government's position is that the strike is illegal and political.

The minister of education has ordered that all schools be closed until Monday.

On Tuesday afternoon, a group participating in the disorders forced entry into Radio Belize and intimidated the staff. The police used tear gas Tuesday and again yesterday to disperse the crowd outside the radio station and other parts of Belize City.

International communications were entirely cut off for at least 2 days, but it is still not clear whether the cable and wireless staff are on strike.

The premier was expected to meet the executives of the Public Service Union today.

COSTA RICA

RADIO RELOJ: U.S. DECISION ON NICARAGUA 'MISTAKEN'

PA022234 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Station editorial]

[Text] The announcement that the United States has decided to halt its aid to Nicaragua is an unfortunate announcement. If the United States does not have proof that Nicaragua is militarily helping the Salvadoran guerrillas; if the Sandinist National Liberation Front has given enough proof that it has suspended its aid to the Salvadoran guerrilla front; and if what exists is only a presumption of advice and logistical aid, also without proof, then there is no reason why, based on presumptions, the economic aid to that country should be halted.

This is a very mistaken decision of the State Department.

The struggle for a democratic and free Nicaragua is a job that concerns every one who, in some way, participated in the overthrowing of Somoza. This is not a quick or an easy task. We are well aware that there are groups who are interested in promoting the consolidation of a Marxist revolution in Nicaragua. But, above all, there is a people who is not communist. There is a private enterprise enterprise sector that wishes to participate in an authentic revolutionary process without capitulating or double-dealing.

Today more than ever the U.S. aid is needed. Today more than ever the Nicaraguan people await the friendly hand of those who represent democracy and freedom.

The suspension of financial aid to Nicaragua is a grave mistake. It is so grave that it can only be compared to the mistakes that precipitated Fidel Castro's attitude against the United States. Only Eisenhower made as many mistakes as could now be made by President Reagan.

Nicaragua might now be pushed toward an irreversible communism and we don't want this. We don't want Nicaragua to fall into the chaos of Fidel's Marxism. In Nicaragua there are very satisfactory indications. There is dialogue and understanding; there is an interest in forming a democratic socialism. These are the things we should all support.

EL SALVADOR

'MARCIAL' ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON FPL ANNIVERSARY

PA021806 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Apr 81

[Text] Managua, 1 Apr (ANN)--Commander Cayetano Carpio, also known as Marcial, chief of El Salvador's Farabundo Marti Popular Liberation Forces, FPL, today reaffirmed that his organization will continue the armed struggle to its very last consequences, until the resolution is victorious.

In a message issued on the 11th anniversary of the creation of the FPL, the outstanding revolutionary leader affirms that the people's armed struggle is the heart and fundamental instrument for the people's victory within the framework of the offensive strategy of resistance, development and advancement approved by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN.

The FPL are part of the FMLN and Commander Carpio is coordinator of the Unified Revolutionary Directorate, DRU, of that guerrilla coalition.

The document salutes the anniversary of the organization, which was founded on 1 April 1970, and stresses the Salvadoran people's fighting spirit as the most important element to achieve victory with the international solidarity of the socialist countries and democratic movements, political, religious and popular organizations and unions all over the world.

The document also makes reference to the difficulties found in connection with the task of achieving the broadest and firmest unity of the people and notes that FPL's will to consolidate the formation and development of unity-oriented bodies, turning the DRU into an (?effective) center for making strategic decisions in connection with the general and fierce battle for the seizure of power.

The FPL will act realistically and persistently to make gradual but constant advances toward unity on the basis of the present real situation.

The path to unity is both complex and difficult and the FPL will do all in its power responsibly to advance along this path, Commander Marcial adds in the document.

He also emphasizes the figure of Agustin Farabundo Marti, who is regarded today as a universal revolutionary hero, (?the tie) of unity of all our humble, exploited and hard-fighting people.

The communique sums up the FPL's revolutionary activities since its creation in 1970. What on 1 April 1970 looked like a dream--the general recognition by the internal and international revolutionary forces that the armed struggle, closely linked with all the other forms of struggle is the only alternative for the achievement of the final victory of revolution in El Salvador--has now become a reality, the commander says.

He also denounces the U.S. Government's interventionist escalation against the Salvadoran people, stressing that this is the same method of domination employed in Vietnam.

The Salvadoran people, he adds, did not want to repeat this experience here, but the Pentagon maniacs, who despise humble people and who have a domination complex that seeks to crush their just aspirations, have taken this path of genocide, extermination and razed land.

The document adds that the people reject the regionalization and internationalization of their country's internal struggle and acknowledge their unyielding determination to achieve self-determination and development, and to build their own destinies without asking Washington's permission, in opposition to all aggressive U.S. measures.

The fundamental element is the heroism of the brave and audacious fighters who every day fight on all struggle fronts, the heroism of the people's self-defense militias, the heroism of the people fighting all forms of genocide and extermination. Nothing can stop the victory of our people, Commander Marcial adds in his document.

The communique, signed by Commander Marcial, ends with the slogan "Let us fight imperialism and its puppet beasts, without either truce or rest, until their total defeat."

ARMY MOVING AGAINST GUERRILLA RADIO SITE

PA030349 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2324 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Text] San Salvador, 2 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--The Salvadoran Army today reinforced an operation aimed at dismantling a guerrilla camp in Morazan Department that has a hospital, a headquarters, a chapel and antennas for radio broadcasting.

Official sources reported today that as a result of the military operation there have been armed clashes between guerrilla groups and Salvadoran Army elements in the towns of Torola, Morazan Department, 168 km east of San Salvador.

The sources said that in this operation, the army is using only land forces because it believes that at the moment it does not need air support, which could be called upon if the circumstances require it.

Meanwhile, neither of the two illegal radio stations of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, "Radio Venceremos" and "Radio Liberation," has said anything about the fighting of the past few hours.

BOMB DAMAGES STORE NEAR NATIONAL PALACE

PA030257 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0209 GMT 3 Apr 81

[Text] San Salvador, 2 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--A powerful bomb exploded early this evening in one of the big stores located in front of the cathedral and the national palace in San Salvador.

According to witnesses, two men in a car fired a burst of machinegun fire into the air to try to disperse the people from the area. Then they threw the bomb into the store's entrance and one more they fired more shots as they fled.

The store belongs to the Goldtree Liebes Corporation which sells, machinery, spare parts, electrical appliances and construction materials. The damage to the store is considerable, as is the damage to the newspaper and candy stands located in front of the national palace and the metropolitan cathedral. There was no report of casualties.

MISSING CANADIAN UNDER ARREST, NOT KIDNAPPED

PA022055 Paris AFP in Spanish 1732 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Text] San Salvador, 2 Apr (AFP)--Canadian citizen Monica Gauthier, 35, was arrested "for investigation purposes" by the national police, official sources reported here today.

A report circulated here yesterday said she had been kidnapped. The report was even published in the morning paper today, but the Armed Forces Press Committee confirmed that she was not kidnapped but arrested. Gauthier has been living in El Salvador for the past 5 years as an adviser on oyster fishing for the Agriculture and Livestock Ministry.

GUATEMALA

KIDNAPPERS RELEASE BROTHER OF GOVERNMENT MINISTER

PA030223 Paris AFP in Spanish 1802 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Excerpt] Guatemala City, 2 Apr (AFP)--It was reported here today that Bayardo Alvarez Ruiz, brother of Guatemala's government minister, was released last night. Bayardo Alvarez Ruiz was kidnapped on 6 March by several armed men.

The family has confirmed the report but has not given details yet. There is no news on whether a ransom was paid or any political demands were met.

During the 28 days that Alvarez was held by his kidnappers, his family said nothing about his situation. His wife even told the news media on several occasions that there was no communication with the kidnappers.

No group has claimed credit for the kidnapping.

HONDURAS

RULES TIGHTENED TO PREVENT FUTURE HIJACKINGS

PA021746 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1145 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Text] Col Leonel Gutierrez Minera, general director of population and immigration policy, said yesterday that strict orders were issued yesterday to travel agencies to the effect that all persons wanting to purchase tickets to leave the capital will have to show all their documents. The source said this will be complied with and agencies that do not will be penalized.

These measures have been taken to prevent the repetition of an incident such as the hijacking of the SAHSA [Honduran Air Services, S.A.] plane, whose perpetrators are not yet known because of a lack of documents to establish their whereabouts.

He affirmed that the airport office will demand identification when persons prepared to board their planes and that a group of inspectors has been commissioned to enforce the rule.

Gutierrez Minera said these steps have been taken to protect citizens from incidents such as the hijacking of the Boeing 737 and that it is expected that with these new controls, trampling on Honduran and foreign residents will be prevented.

He said that the case of guerrilla Facundo Guardado had caused problems because at the time of his arrest he was carrying false documents issued in Costa Rica, which caused confusion among the security authorities. An investigation was begun, but it was never hidden from the public. Proof of this, he added, is the photograph of the subversive which we released for publication in the nation's newspapers. Thus, the citizens will realize that there has been no attempt to intervene in issues outside our country. The only thing that has been done is to enforce the law, which is our obligation.

Referring to persons who forge identity documents, he said the authorities are in pursuit of these individuals so as to hold them responsible. Also from now on there will be controls stricter than those long in effect.

This has been a report from a San Pedro Sula paper.

ANTI-INFLATION DRAFT PLAN RETURNED TO COMMITTEE

PA021645 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1145 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Paco Medina report]

[Text] The economic cabinet returned the draft of anti-inflation measures to the committee that drew them up because it felt they are detrimental to bilateral trade treaties.

The special technical committee that drafted the package is made up of officials of the Economy and Commerce and Finance and Public Credit Ministries and the Central Bank. The draft was sent this week to the economic cabinet, which in its latest session then decided to return it to the committee for modifications.

According to the draft measures, all imports without exception would have to pay a 10-percent customs tax. Honduras regulates its commercial relations with its neighbors of the Central American area through bilateral treaties. The planned disposition, according to the economic cabinet, conflicts with bilateral treaties since imports and exports to Central America are subject to special regulations.

It was said that the draft has been substantially amended. Specifically, the application of new customs rates for imports from third countries has been specified and its percentage reduced from 10 to 6.

Some officials who heard about the modification were optimistic since Honduras could have run the risk of having its neighbors close their borders because of violations of bilateral treaties.

LAWYER SAYS UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR UNJUSTLY ARRESTED

PA012208 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 26 Mar 81 p 4

[Text] Attorney Mauricio Villeda Bermudez charged yesterday that Allan Fajardo is being kept incommunicado and mistreated by the police. Fajardo was unjustly arrested 7 days ago in Tegucigalpa by agents of the Public Security Force [FUSEP].

Allan Fajardo, a professor of the National Autonomous University of Honduras, disappeared 1 week ago. His whereabouts were unknown until it was learned from two people that the university professor was arrested and taken to the FUSEP jail in El Manchen neighborhood.

Villeda Bermudez yesterday tried to find out where Fajardo was being held but the officials at the Department of National Investigation [DIN] in Casamata and at the FUSEP station in El Manchen denied that he was being held there.

Villeda Bermudez said the authorities told him that no arrest warrant was issued by the DIN but that the military intelligence group or an intelligence department of the DIN acting separately could have ordered the arrest warrant.

Fajardo's mother and family are very worried about his physical safety and have said that the FUSEP authorities will be responsible if anything happens to the professor.

NICARAGUA

GOVERNMENT, FSLN RESPOND TO SUSPENSION OF U.S. AID

Government Note to U.S.

PA021247 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Text] Nicaragua has never pledged to stop the shipment of weapons to El Salvador, because such shipments have never existed. This was stated in a Foreign Ministry note on 11 March which rejected the same arguments which are now being used to justify the total suspension of U.S. aid to our country.

The patience of the revolutionary government had already been exhausted when, exactly 20 days ago, it was decided to send a formal note of protest in light of the continuous distortions that the U.S. State Department had launched with very ill intentions.

The note said: Our government has held very highly and again reiterates its firm adherence to the principles of self-determination of peoples and noninterference in the internal affairs of other states. We insist once again that the Nicaraguan Government has never accepted, in public or in private, to any U.S. Government official, any responsibility in the alleged arms traffic to El Salvador. Consequently, the Nicaraguan Government has made no commitment to suspend this shipment of weapons, because it has never existed.

We consider real interference in the internal affairs of the Salvadoran people to be the ominous shipment of military equipment and logistical support to massacre those fraternal people. Similarly, we are greatly concerned over the dispatching of military advisers to that country because that represents a particularly serious step in the already dangerous escalation of intervention in El Salvador.

We see with great concern that all these measures greatly hinder the special efforts being made by our revolutionary government to achieve a political solution to the Salvadoran conflict, for which reason we urge those responsible for those measures to refrain from using, or threatening to use force against that fraternal Central American people.

The note, which is clearly phrased in the language of truth and which indicates those who are really participating and interfering to promote violence in El Salvador, was ignored politically by the U.S. Government. The only response is the present announcement of the U.S. Government decision to suspend all aid to our country.

This is the customary language, the historic response in the form of pressure and aggression when people have the high-mindedness and dignity to firmly uphold the inviolable principles of sovereignty and self-determination.

Meeting of Senior Officials

PA021918 Paris AFP in Spanish 1908 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Text] Managua, 2 Apr (AFP)--The Nicaraguan Government announced today that it will denounce the freezing of U.S. economic aid at the United Nations and the OAS because it considers that the measure "provokes an affront on national dignity."

At a special meeting attended by all senior officials of the government, Commander Daniel Ortega also announced the Nicaraguan Government's decision to resort to the economic and technical support of other nations "in order to advance in its work of national reconstruction."

Government Statement

PA022042 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1940 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Statement issued by junta of the Government of National Reconstruction to the Nicaraguan people, read by junta member Commander Daniel Ortega--live]

[Text] The junta of the Government of National Reconstruction addresses the heroic people of Nicaragua to announce that the U.S. Government has canceled the loans that were being used in the economic reconstruction of our fatherland and has also canceled future loans. This action constitutes a genuine aggression against Nicaragua among the many that the country has endured in the past from the United States ever since the first filibusterers stepped ashore in our country in 1855, through military occupations, political and economic interventions, including 50 years of U.S. support fro the Somozist dictatorship, which was also another form of intervention.

Cancellation of the loans is an unjustifiable deed that cannot be covered up in any way and which can only be noted for what it is: palpable evidence of an aggressive attitude against Nicaragua imposed by those sectors within the present U.S. administration which are radically opposed to our revolution and which, with this kind of action, are trying to subject our fatherland to their own hegemonic interests.

The U.S. Government communique announcing the cancellation of the loans is written in terms offensive to our sovereignty and it hurts the dignity of our fatherland by trying to establish rewards and punishments for our conducting our sovereign country, as if Nicaragua were still dependent on the changes in the U.S. policy in the past or as if there were no popular revolution which liquidated this past of submission and surrender.

An alleged arms traffic from Nicaragua to El Salvador has been used as a pretext to justify this aggression. This is a lie that our government has vigorously rejected every time it has been brought up. However, the reality is that the true concern of the sectors which have promoted this measure is the existence and consolidation of our revolution, because it proves to the world and the poor and the forgotten that it is possible to build a new country, achieve sovereignty and independence and gain the respect of all honorable nations.

This economic aggression by the government of a powerful country against a poor nation like ours comes about despite the great efforts our government and revolution have made to seek a stable and positive relations with the United States after a long history of interference and domination which ended on 19 July 1979. This measure comes at a time when Nicaragua is being threatened by other armed aggression being planned and organized in U.S. territory, as has been fully demonstrated, where terrorist actions are planned without the U.S. Government doing anything to prevent such actions. This aggression is also occurring while the United States is arming the Salvadoran Army and is sending military advisers there, thus starting an escalation which brings about the destabilization of the Central American area and dangerously increases tensions in a region that is becoming increasingly unstable.

The economic cooperation that the United States had agreed to offer to our people for their tasks of reconstruction was never regarded as a bonus or a gift. We must recall that our country was impoverished by the indiscriminate looting by foreign companies and by the voraciousness of a family which protected and built its power on the support it always received from the United States.

Therefore, the loans received were only a very small part of a large pending debt. The Nicaraguan Government is preparing to denounce at international forums this unjustified aggression that we are victims of. We will immediately take the case to the United Nations, the OAS, the Nonaligned Movement and other world forums, where the Nicaraguan revolution has gained respect, admiration and support.

We also have the unconditional support of many countries which have been helping and will continue to help our reconstruction process in Europe and in Latin America as well as the socialist and Arab countries.

Our revolution has an unquestionable support in loans and economic and technical assistance from those countries, and this support is being given without any conditions. However, we must note that the victory of the reconstruction and the success of the transformation of our country, to make it more prosperous and more independent, depend basically on our work, discipline and efforts for production in the fields, the factories and the shops. It is the organized and constant support of the peasants, workers, technicians, professionals and businessmen which will give us a new and stronger Nicaragua.

Our government reiterates its desire to maintain respectful and stable relations with all countries of the world, including the United States. The revolution reaffirms its desire to have peace and security in Central America. The Nicaraguans want peace, but a peace with dignity and without foreign intervention, threats, aggression or conditions. If the people fought with their weapons, it was precisely to have a free and proud Nicaragua, and we will continue to struggle to consolidate that liberty and that dignity which we won with so many sacrifices.

For the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction: Sergio Ramirez, Rafael Cordova and Daniel Oretga. [applause]

FSLN Statement

PA030122 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2323 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Statement issued by the directorate of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, FSLN, on 2 April 1981; read by Commander Bayardo Arce, coordinator of the FSLN Political Committee "at the Eddy Berrios Auditorium of the Sandinist television network"--live or recorded]

[Text] The FSLN assumes the responsibility of informing our people and the civilized world of the notably serious circumstances resulting from the attitude of the present U.S. Government with regard to Nicaragua, an attitude which can be summarized as follows:

1. The U.S. Government, headed by Ronald Reagan, has officially informed our government of the suspension of the loans that the previous administration and the U.S. Congress--in just reparation for aggressions suffered by our country from the past century as a result of imperialist policies--had approved for Nicaragua, both to support the country's economic and social reconstruction and to purchase wheat sold by the United States to Nicaragua. This declaration gives official standing to the de facto embargo that the new U.S. administration decreed in the first weeks of this year to combat the efforts of Nicaraguans to rehabilitate our country that had been destroyed by Somozism.

2. The official spokesmen of the Reagan administration have proferred, as an apparent reason for justifying the suspension of the loans, certain evidence that is lacking in the most elemental reliability, which according to the CIA indicates that the Government of Nicaragua allegedly has eventually given military aid to the revolutionary forces that struggle in El Salvador to overthrow the military-Christian Democratic junta of that country.

3. The FSLN hereby charges that this act by the Reagan administration is actually the manifestation of an overall policy of aggression and intervention which influential warmongering circles of the U.S. Government have been organizing to defeat and to destroy the determination and the aspiration of Nicaraguans to build a new, just, free and independent fatherland.

4. The FSLN maintains that even before Ronald Reagan's presidential victory, the government platform and the foreign policy of the new government concerning Nicaragua were based on prejudicies and considerations copied from the most arrogant and imperialist eras of the big stick, of flagrant military intervention and of the genocidal doctrines applied by Richard Nixon.

Even before the Salvadoran conflict had become more acute, some of the creators of that foreign policy who today surround Reagan had already conceived of an overall policy of destabilization and aggression directed against our popular victory and our process of social change.

The FSLN has not failed to realize that this measure by the Reagan government has been effectively accompanied by tolerance toward the groups of Somozist guardsmen who are training in Miami and other U.S. cities, by an arms trafficking organized by genocidal individuals from the United States and by the almost official, if underhanded, links maintained by some officials of the State Department and the National Security Council with well-known counterrevolutionaries who are directing bands operating on our borders. One of these is Anastasio Somoza Portocarrero himself.

In addition, this same administration was very active in the arrest of several members of our air force, including even the deputy commander of that service, Modesto Rojas, who was held under arrest in the United States for several weeks, merely for making arrangements to purchase civilian helicopters from a legally established firm in the United States in an operation that was completely normal, but which nevertheless cost us the confiscation by the U.S. Government of the two helicopters that had been purchased and a fine of $150,000.

5. The Reagan administration's attempts to involve the Nicaraguan Government in an alleged trafficking of weapons from the socialist countries to El Salvador are no more than an infamous pretext to cover up the aggressive and ultrareactionary foreign policy being applied by the United States throughout the region.

While loans are being suspended, bread is being cut off and threats are made against a country that is engaged in healing the wounds left by Somozism through work and civic efforts. The same U.S. Government has introduced into the Central American and Caribbean region fabulous quantities of weapons, resources and military personnel. In this manner, the policy of the present U.S. Government, as has been reported by many civic groups of the United States and the entire world, is encouraging governing minorities to drown the growing popular protests in blood and is inhibiting the possibilities for a political solution among the various sectors of the societies in those countries, while at the same time, this policy heightens tensions and instability in the area.

It is not the Nicaraguan Government that should be cause for concern when there is an attempt to examine the causes and the solutions to the problems that have affected the entire Central American region for many decades. The cause for concern should, above all, be the U.S. Government and its present policy, which lacks realism and maturity and which encourages interference, warmongering and destabilization.

6. The FSLN, at the head of the people and the government, has been working ever since the day of popular victory, to economically, politically and morally reconstruct our country that was devastated, not so much by the effects of the war of liberation as by the long years of Somozist plunder and imperialist subjection. We have been engaged in efforts to build a society that is fully independent, authentically popular in orientation and of pluralist participation on the ruins bequeathed us by Somozism.

The aggressive measures of the U.S. Government have sabotaged this great national effort in an attempt to keep our people from freely exercising the sovereign rights that we won at the price of our own blood.

7. We can count on the solidarity of the peoples of the world and of the democratic and progressive governments, but above all, we can count on the firmness, commitment to independence and dignity of our people to allow us to continue marching firmly along the path that we have chosen. The imperialists are mistaken if they think that threats and pressures will intimidate us and turn us back. We are exercising the sacred right of peoples to self-determination and will continue to do so without wavering despite the threats and pressures because our people have been forged in combat and adverse conditions and because our people neither sell our nor surrender.

8. The reactionary circles of the U.S. Government are threatening us and are carrying out aggression against us. It is the duty of all Nicaraguans worthy of the name to come to the defense of the threatened fatherland. The FSLN calls on the trade union and peasant organizations, the political groups and parties, the Nicaraguan youth, businessmen and technicians and the entire people to close ranks around the Government of National Reconstruction in order to reject and to defeat this new imperialist aggression. The FSLN reflects the unanimous feeling of our people and reaffirms its decision to stand in front of the dignity of the entire nation, of all social and patriotic sectors, peasants, workers, women, patriotic businessmen, the clergy, students, soldiers and the entire people to confront the pressures and threats being raised in the north against our fatherland.

9. The FSLN has absolute confidence in the ability of our people and government to survive this and other more difficult circumstances. The suspension of U.S. loans will undoubtedly have a negative effect on the production and supply goals that we had set for ourselves. However, we are absolutely certain that our people are prepared to support and to face up to any sacrifice to guarantee their sovereign rights and the independence of their fatherland.

The strength of the people lies in their revolutionary commitment, their creative intelligence and their inexhaustible vigor, which have been manifested throughout our history.

Today we are obliged to face the great tasks of production and defense with enthusiasm and dedication. We must reach new goals in work, in organization, in discipline, in savings and in combat readiness.

We must struggle vigorously against lack of discipline in labor, against the mismanagement of resources, against disorder and improvisation, against a drain of capital and other forms of economic sabotage, against nonfulfillment of duty in militia training and against any negative manifestation that separates us from the vital tasks of defense and production. The fatherland must be unconditionally united and working fully to meet the national challenge of uplifting Nicaragua amidst the most acute difficulties.

10. Today, when a small and poor Latin American country again begins the difficult task of building its destiny on just bases of progress and happiness and when obscure imperialist circles again threaten, exert pressure and carry out aggressions to obstruct our effort, the FSLN calls on the democratic and progressive government and the peoples of the entire world to vigorously repudiate the unjust, offensive and dangerous actions of the U.S. Government with regard to our fatherland. At the same time, it demands solidarity in support of the determination of the entire Nicaraguan nation to achieve national reconstruction, peace and national independence.

Sandino yesterday, Sandino today, Sandino forever. Free fatherland or death.

[Signed] Tomas Borge Martinez, Victor Tirado Lopez, Daniel Ortega Saavedra, Humberto Ortega Saavedra, Henry Ruiz Hernandez, Jaime Wheelock Roman, Bayardo Arce Castano, Carlos Nunez Tellez and Luis Carrion Cruz, commanders of the revolution and members of the FSLN National Directorate.

Radio Sandino Commentary

PA022032 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Commentary: "Against Imperialist Attacks, Unity and Revolutionary Firmness"]

[Text] It has once again been confirmed that to the most aggressive and belligerent circles in the U.S. Governmemt the Sandinist people's revolution is a sliver in the eye and that they are willing to resort to the dirtiest tricks in their efforts to bring about the collapse, if not the destruction, of this historic conquest by the Nicaraguan people.

This anti-Sandinist phobia does not stem from the alleged threat that the live presence of the revolutionary Nicaraguan David in the continental territory of our America might pose to the security of the materially powerful imperialism, but to the weakness and moral incapacity of the enemies of mankind to put out the beacon of liberatarian struggle that the example set by our revolution constitutes for our sister peoples.

Thus, unable to find any valid reason to openly implement their plans of military aggression against the Nicaraguan people, they have dedicated themselves to drafting gross pretexts aimed at politically and economically attacking us for the specific purpose of bringing about a destabilization that might promote conditions favorable to military aggression.

Nonetheless, blinded by their war-oriented adventurism and unable to find new pretexts to justify their aggressive escalation, they insist on their gross and trite pretext of an alleged arms traffic and ties with the rebels in El Salvador in order to take a more serious step in implementing their plans against the Sandinist people's revolution and the Nicaraguan people.

Thus, this afternoon, the international news agencies announced to the world that the U.S. Government has decided to suspend all financial aid to Nicaragua's leftist government because of its ties with the Salvadoran rebels.

On the basis of government sources in Washington, UPI newsman Jim Anderson says that the State Department has once again insisted on an alleged arms traffic through our country on behalf of the revolutionaries in El Salvador.

According to the report, the $75 million program has been suspended and Nicaragua will not receive the remaining $15 million, and it will be asked to reimburse to the United States the $60 million already received.

Further on, the UPI report says that the State Department's report to Congress says that the Nicaraguan Government is no longer eligible for U.S. aid because it is fomenting international terrorism and supporting violence in another country.

As our people can clearly see, the State Department's fallacious argument not only constitutes a gross pretext that the Reagan administration insists on to justify this new economic attack, even though it has already been rejected by the majority of the governments of Western Europe and Latin America, but it also ignores our revolutionary government's to that false charge.

On that occasion our government not only ratified its firm compliance with the principles of self-determination of the peoples and noninterference in the domestic affairs of other states and categorically rejected all responsibility in an alleged arms traffic to El Salvador, but also expressed its justified concern over the alrady dangerous U.S. interventionist escalation in Central America. This clearly shows the degree of contempt for the rules of international coexistence in imperialism's hegemonic plans.

Furthermore, this new attack by the inhuman policy of blackmail and starvation of the enemies of the well-being and happiness of the peoples must awaken to reality all those Nicaraguans who are either confused or hesitant, so they realize the danger hovering over all Nicaraguans and other peoples. But what is to be expected from those who train mercenaries and people without a country on their territory?

But this new measure of economic pressure and blackmail will never make Sandino's children yield, for they neither sell themselves nor surrender. On the contrary, this measure strengthens our patriotic willingness to sacrifice as much as necessary and to reach the very last consequences defending the fatherland and the revolution.

Furthermore, we do not fear the consequences implicit in our choice to build a better life for ourselves, even though the real international terrorists in the White House and in the Yankee Pentagon are watching us, for the Nicaraguan people are not alone and if one of their claws attacks us, 10 hands of solidarity will be extended toward us.

Nonetheless, we cannot underestimate the dangers surrounding us. At this point the national unity of the Nicaraguan people is extremely necessary and the spirit of 1856 must be reborn in the minority sectors that have not yet defined themselves in the face of the real threat posed by these contemporary pirates who once again are looking for modern-day slaves in the fatherland of Jose Dolores Estrada, Zeledon, Sandino and Carlos Fonseca.

Meanwhile, it is up to the people to prepare themselves for even greater sacrifices if this were necessary and to fulfill the priority tasks of production and defense to which we have been called by our revolutionary vanguard, the Sandinist National Liberation Front, in the certainty that just as it led us to victory over Somozism, it will know how to lead us to final victory over the internal and external enemies along the path to our final liberation.

SERGIO RAMIREZ CRITICIZES ROBELO'S SOCIALISM

PA022321 Managua International Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Text] Our government junta appeared before the people once more to discuss various aspects of our young revolutionary process during the program "Face the People" being held in various neighborhoods, communities and work centers every week.

Asked about Alfonso Robelo's attitude recently, Companero Sergio Ramirez Mercado, a member of our government junta, said:

[Begin recording] We have always maintained that Robelo is a millionaire merchant of this country. He owns large interests: a large cotton plantation on Pociguina Peninsula made up of 6,000 manzanas, the largest cooking oil factory in the country, a spray plane company, a cacao processing company which is also engaged in the production of a cooking oil called mani. Robelo has a large coffee farm in Costa Rica called Haciare. He owns a large sugar mill in Guanacaste, Costa Rica. He used to have these interests in partnership with a man called Borgonovo, a member of one of the 14 richest families in El Salvador. After Borgonovo died, Robelo continued to be a partner of this Borgonovo family.

We are saying this not to criticize him because he is a millionaire. Everybody knows that the millionaires who want to produce and work in their firms have a chance in this popular revolution and Robelo is not the only millionarie who is participating in the production of Nicaragua. However, there are other millionaires who have a different political behavior. We recall this because he is the one who speaks of socialism within freedom. Our people clearly understand that anybody who has as many million cordobas or dollars as Robelo can hardly speak of socialism which we understand is a doctrine of the poor and not the rich.

Socialism has been established in certain countries of the world when the poor have seized power reacting to the rich who used to have that power. Therefore, this is a contradiction which Mr Robelo does not explain. How can a millionarie speak of socialism, even the way he puts it: a socialism in liberty. We must be clear about the way in which Robelo handles his propaganda. He handles his propaganda financed by the rich, a social class to which he belongs.

Mr Robelo will continue going abroad to discredit the revolution, the people and our country in Costa Rica, the United States and other countries.

However, the slanderers, like Jose Esteban Gonzalez, now know that it is not the government as a government that will respond to them; it will be the Nicaraguan people who, although they are pejoratively called mobs and masses by the slanderers, will be giving the answers because they are the owners of all the answers in our fatherland since 19 July 1979. [applause] [end recording]

LABOR LEADER PRAISES CALL TO NATIONAL DIALOGUE

PA022204 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Text] The national dialogue is aimed at advancement, not at retrogression, said Alejandro Solorzano, secretary general of the General Independent Workers Confederation [CGTI].

Companero Solorzano described the Sandinist National Liberation Front's national appeal as an opportunity that the vanguard is giving to the bourgeois sectors so they can make a decision in connection with the country's current political situation.

Solorzano added that this is a chance for the bourgeois parties to say whether they are on the side of the peoples' cause or that of imperialism.

He added that the fact that the front is sponsoring these talks can in no way be construed as a sign of weakness because several popular organizations are currently expressing their solidarity to the front and the government junta.

He then indicated that the CGTI does not believe the front will go back on its revolutionary project.

In conclusion he said that the national appeal is part of the Sandinist Front's political pluralism, for the front wants all sectors to help construct a new society.

CORDOVA RIVAS OPPOSES PARTY'S STATE COUNCIL STAND

PA022205 Managua NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 27 Mar 81 p 9

[Excerpts] The leaders of the Democratic Conservative Party yesterday decided not to leave the State Council but to keep their representatives away from the council until "their 13 points" are met.

Dr Rafael Cordova Rivas participated in the discussions as a full member and explained his negative vote as follows:

"I still take the same position I took last time: The 13 points are appropriate but they do not have political validity unless we are in the council. Why? Because we will not have the political force to hold and defend those points if we are not in the council.

"It has been asked what we stand to gain by being in the State Council. One advantage that the party has been working hard to gain its legal status, the legal status that we sought when we collected about 2 meters of signatures, 100,000 signatures, in El Almendro, El Castillo, Jalapa, Murra, Ciudad Antigua and Muy Muy.

"I don't want to talk to the private enterprise groups and, when they look me up, I tell them to go talk to the political parties. I suggest they first talk to the Conservative Party, the Constitutional Liberal Party, the Social Christian Party and the Social Democratic Party or whatever because I don't like the little game of whores pretending to be nuns. I have never liked it because it is up to the political parties to engage in political activity and power is meant for the parties, not for businessmen or industrialists or mining people or banana people or cotton people. It is meant for political parties. And with regard to political parties, we have been rated in fourth or fifth place in a communique even though we are the strongest political party. I now move so that the Conservative Party will never again subscribe to a document unless it is mentioned in first place because that is its position, the position it has won for itself."

OPPOSITION, EPS MEMBERS ARRESTED FOR CARRYING ARMS

PA030129 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Text] Luis Ignacio Molina Lacayo, secretary of the Democratic Conservative Youth, who was reported missing by several of the country's media, has turned out to be implicated in the illegal possession of weapons and is currently under arrest.

The following is communique No 8 of the Defense Ministry's Public and International Relations Office:

The Defense Ministry announces:

1. That Orlando Mayorga Aguilar, in the service of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS], was detained while illegally carrying a submachinegun and two .38-cal revolvers, property of the EPS, in complicity with civilians Ronald Mayorga and Luis Ignacio Molina Lacayo.

2. It has been confirmed that these weapons were going to be used to commit crimes covered by our penal laws.

3. In keeping with the military auditing office's organization law and with the provisional military penal procedure, the case of these individuals is being prepared at the Sandinist armed forces' general auditing office.

Managua, 1 April 1981.
Public and International Relations Office of the Defense Ministry.

SOMOZIST PRISONERS TO BE PARDONED BY HOLY WEEK

PA310353 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] Prisoners from several penitentiaries will be released before Holy Week. The national board for the advancement and protection of human rights will submit a list of names this afternoon to the National Reconstruction Government junta. The board has drafted the list taking into consideration the sentences of the prisoners, their participation in production and their behavior while in jail.

This is the third pardon of Somozist convicts made by the revolutionary government, and it is based on a request made by the national board for the advancement and protection of human rights in December 1980 to the government junta. The convicts to be pardoned before Holy Week will be those with sentences which range from 1 to 3 years. Both the national board for the advancement and protection of human rights and the government will submit names of candidates to be pardoned.

This third pardon granted by the revolutionary government is a demonstration to the world of the revolutionary generosity practiced by the National Reconstruction Government.

POLICEMAN, FARMERS MURDERED BY 'SOMOZISTS'

'Sandinist Combatant' Killed

PA311606 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] The Interior Ministry delegate in the fourth military region has reported that the body of Daniel Garcia Herrera, Sandinist combatant and member of the state security, was found on Sunday. Companero Garcia Herrera was murdered by a counterrevolutionary band operating in the area of Matagalpa and Jinotega. Here is newsman Francisco de Jesus Rodriguez in Jinotega:

[Begin recording] Companero Edwin Cordero, Interior Ministry delegate and security chief of the fourth military region, has reported that the body of state security member Daniel Garcia Herrera was found Sunday. He was brutally murdered by a band of Somozist criminals in (Sanpopera), between (El Cua) and Wiwili.

In a telephone conversation in Matagalpa with newsmen of Jinotega, Companero Cordero said Garcia Herrera was killed on 25 March by a counterrevolutionary band after he was tortured, castrated and then buried alive. [Passage indistinct] a number of people have been arrested for questioning. The alleged leader of the band that killed Garcia Herrera is [name indistinct], who is being sought by the security forces in the northern zone. [end recording]

Two Farmers Slain

PA011636 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Apr 81

[Text] Former Somozist guardsmen continue to kill Nicaraguans. This time two companeros were killed in Madriz Department. The Madriz departmental committee of the Sandinist National Liberation Front has reported that bands of former Somozist guardsmen continue their criminal incursions in Nicaraguan territory. On Monday afternoon they killed two small farmers who were members of the people's militia in Cusmapa.

According to the report, the dead men were identified as Coronado Marin and Natalio Gutierrez, who were working on their farm in Cusmapa. They were attacked from the back. Coronado Marin was shot to death and Gutierrez was shot several times and his throat was slit.

When the residents of Cusmapa and other towns of Madriz learned about these new murders, they went into the streets to express their repudiation of the bloodthirsty criminal former Somozist guardsmen who continue to kill as they did when they defended the interests of the dictator.

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE IN ALTAMIRA ATTACKED

PA021646 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Text] The National Telecommunications and Postal Directorate [TELCOR] office in Altamira was attacked last night and the assailants stole 30,000 cordobas, documents and checks. The attack was staged at 2000 while some people were waiting to receive phone calls. A police patrol arrived on the scene shortly after the attack and began investigating.

HENRY RUIZ SLAMS U.S. AT BULGARIAN PARTY CONGRESS

For the Managua Radio Sandino report made by Henry Ruiz, Sandinist commander of the revolution, at the 12th Bulgarian Communist Party Congress, see page C 11 of the Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT published on 3 April.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO SPAIN--Orlando Castillo Estrada has been appointed ambassador to Spain. He replaces Ernesto Mejia Sanchez. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 26 Mar 81]

DEPUTY MINISTER RESIGNS--Nicaraguan Industry Minister Federico Cerda reported that Deputy Industry Minister Ernesto Leon has resigned. [Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 Mar 81 PA]

WEST INDIES MOVE TOWARD CLOSER INTEGRATION

FL021640 Bridgetown CANA in English 1400 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Interview with Augustus Compton, Executive Secretary of the Secretariat of the West Indies Associated States [WISA] Council of Ministers, supplied to CANA by the WISA Secretariat]

[Excerpts] Castries, St Lucia, 2 Apr (CANA)--A unity move by the small islands of the Caribbean will both strengthen their position as a unit and narrow the areas of misunderstanding within the wider Caribbean community, says Augustus Compton, the island's senior civil servant. Compton is currently executive secretary to the Council of Ministers of the West Indies Associated States [WISA]. That grouping comprises St Lucia, Dominica, Grenada, St Vincent, Antigua, St Kitts-Nevis and Montserrat, which on July 4 this year will establish the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS).

[Question] What is the OECS treaty?

[Answer] The treaty establishing the OECS was adopted by the seven governments of the Leeward and Windward Islands in October of last year after 2 years of very careful consideration and discussion. When it is brought into effect on July 4th, it will bind the member governments to implement decisions which are jointly taken in a number of areas, including foreign and economic affairs, defense and security and functional cooperation.

[Question] Why is the OECS regarded as a major step in strengthening regional integration?

[Answer] There are several reasons why the creation of the organization is regarded as a major step in strengthening the regional integration movement. Firstly, the governments themselves initiated the concept of the OECS: Unlike other integration efforts such as the West Indies Federation, the idea was not developed outside the region and then promoted among Caribbean governments.

[Question] Why did the seven governments of WISA consider it necessary to review their relationship?

[Answer] The need for a review arose with the change in the constitutional status of four of the member states of WISA and the anticipated change in the status of the other member states. These countries were confronted with the reality that they had to play a role in international affairs. Included in that role was the establishment of embassies in foreign capitals, participation in such organizations as the United Nations and the Organization of American States (OAS), involvement in global discussions on economic issues and responsibility for defense and security.

These are all areas in which the governments were not in the past directly involved since the responsibility rested with the British Government. In addition, as colonies of Britain, these seven countries had shared a number of services and it was necessary to review those common services against a situation in which some member states were independent and others were not. The governments had to consider whether a continuing relationship was possible.

[Question] What prompted them to conclude that it was possible, or even desirable, to continue their relationship?

[Answer] Several factors contributed to that conclusion, but as I have already stated, there was an obvious desire by the member governments to maintain their relationship. The first factor is historical: These seven governments for over 14 years have been operating common services and joint arrangements in a meaningful way.

[Question] How have they decided to broaden and strengthen common services?

[Answer] By choosing the retain those common services which now exist by integrating the functions of two of the institutions, and by upgrading another. Let me be specific: The Directorate of Civil Aviation and the East Caribbean Tourist Association will in effect become associate institutions of the OECS; the East Caribbean Common Market Secretariat will be absorbed into the OECS and will become the Economic Affairs Division; the WISA Council of Ministers will be replaced by the authority of heads of government which is the supreme authority of the OECS; and the East Caribbean Currency Authority is now being examined with a view to upgrading it to a Central Bank.

But apart from maintaining and strengthening the existing common services and areas of functional cooperation the OECS will add a number of new activities, some of which directly address the new responsibilities of independent member states.

[Question] What are these new responsibilities of independent member states which will be included in the common services of the OECS?

[Answer] They relate directly to the reasons which occasioned a review of the WISA relationship in the first place: namely, overseas diplomatic representation, and defense and security. Let us take them one at a time. First, overseas diplomatic representation. Under the OECS treaty member governments have agreed that they will "establish and maintain, wherever possible, joint overseas representation."

Now let us look at the second common service related to independence--defense and security. Before the attainment of independence by some member states in the Leeward and Windward Islands, Britain was responsible for the defense and security of each state. With independence, those member states are fully responsible for their own defense and security.

Setting up arrangements for defense and security such as armed forces and coast guard facilities are expensive and although Caribbean governments and peoples would much prefer to spend money on economic and social programs than on military equipment, one has to be realistic and recognize that a government has a duty to make provision for the security and defense of the state.

Although the OECS treaty does not provide for a regional security force, included among the purposes and functions of the organization is that the member states will endeavor to coordinate, harmonize and pursue a joint policy in the field of mutual defense and security.

The defense and security committee, which is one of the institutions of the organization, therefore has responsiblity for coordinating the efforts of member states for collective defense and the preservation of peace and security and for the development of close ties among the member states of the organization in matters of defense and security, including measures to combat the activities of mercenaries.

Within the overall framework of common services and functional cooperation, arrangements are being made for the establishment of a regional coast guard facility.

Further, the treaty also requires them to seek to adopt, as far as possible, "common positions on international issues." From this, it is clear that in keeping with the spirit of the treaty, member governments should seek to adopt common foreign policy positions. Admittedly, this may not always be possible, and in those circumstances it would be within the bounds of the treaty for any government to instruct a head of mission to act in a manner consistent with that government's own position.

One of the institutions of the OECS will be the Foreign Affairs Committee, comprising the foreign ministers of member governments. It is they who are charged with the responsiblity of seeking to achieve the fullest possible harmonization of foreign policy.

They are also the one who have to seek to adopt, as far as possible, common positions on international issues. Therefore, long before action is required at the level of the overseas representative, foreign ministers should have collectively addressed the issues with a view to arriving at a common position.

[Question] The People's Revolutionary Government of Grenada which will be a signatory to the OECS treaty was at variance last year with other Caribbean governments when voting in the UN, On Afghanistan. Do you anticipate that different ideological perspectives will adversely affect the work of the OECS?

[Answer] The short answer is no. The long answer takes account of a number of factors. The OECS treaty does not require member governments to follow any particular ideology. It merely requires them to promote cooperation among themselves, to defend each other's sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence, to seek to achieve harmonization of foreign policy, to seek to adopt common positions on international issues, as far as possible, and, to promote economic coopeation among themselves.

So in this context, provided that all participating governments adhere to both the letter and the spirit of the treaty, I cannot foresee how the treaty provisions might be adversely affected through ideolgoical differences.

It is important to understand that one of the basic principles of the OECS treaty is the recognition by all members states that the unification of their efforts and resources and the establishment and strengthening of common institutions serve to increase their bargaining power. That principle benefits Grenada as much as it does other members states. Individually, each state is a lone voice in the wilderness, together the states are a chorus that cannot be easily ignored.

[Question] But in merely being part of a chorus, would individual states not be surrendering their sovereign rights?

[Answer] Absolutely not. The sovereign rights of each state remains intact. The OECS is a vehicle by which member states exercise their individual sovereign rights in a collective manner for the good of all. In that context, there is not a surrender but a strengthening of individual sovereign rights.

[Question] Though we have dealt a great deal with foreign affairs, economic matters will also be a vital area of the organization's work. Is not that so?

[Answer] Very definitely. As I mentioned earlier, the functions of the existing East Caribbean Common Market, ECCM, Secretariat will be absorbed into the OECS as the Economic Affairs Division. But apart from continuing the functions of the ECCM, other economic activities will be added to the work of the organization. Let me spell out the economic areas.

We must realize that the ECCM has operated with success over the last few years. For example, an allocation of industry scheme has been functional in the LDCS, whereas CARICOM [Caribbean Community Common Market] is yet to implement such a scheme. Under the allocation system, certain industries are assigned to certain countries and other countries are prohibited from encouraging similar industries on their territories. This situation gives a guaranteed market in the LDCS to the country in which the allocated industry operates, and the result is twofold: First, there is a complementary, rather than a competitive development of the economies of the LDCS, and, secondly, this should result in an equitable distribution of employment opportunities in the member states. That aspect of the economic relations of member states will be strengthened under the OECS with obvious benefits for the areas as a whole.

In addition, recognizing that each of their states lacks the human resources and expertise to develop social and economic programs and projects to increase their rate of development, member governments have agreed that such expertise should be placed in the OECS for the benefit of individual states and the area as a whole. The value of such an arrangement is:

(1) The cost of the expertise is shared by all the member states, and, thus each state saves money; and

(2) Since the expertise will be centrally located, it would be possible to plan the overall development of the subregion in a uniform manner.

This concept of pooling expertise already has received considerable support from international agencies and donor countries. Funds for the scheme already have been committed by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the European Development Fund (EDF), and within the Caribbean Group for Cooperation in Economic Development (OGCED) donor countries have expressed a willingness to contribute. The Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation (CTFC), which has already assisted a great deal in the establishment of the OECS, is also interested in continuing assistance to the multilateral level, through the OECS.

The pool of experts will work in a number of areas, crucial to the development of member states. These areas include: agriculture industry, transport, tourism, information and communication, fiscal policy and planning, health services, engineering and port management. An important aspect of the scheme is that, as far as possible, experts will be nationals of the Caribbean. This is significant because, eventually, member states would wish to have at their disposal a permanent pool of Caribbean expertise capable of responding to the development needs and objectives of the region.

[Question] You have described the internal economic relations but what about external economic matters? How will the OECS function in that regard?

[Answer] The treaty provides for an economic affairs committee as one of the institutions of the organization. That committee has a responsibility for formulating policy of the OECS with regard to economic integration among member states and external economic relations. Under the terms of the treaty, the committee has a duty to "coordinate, harmonize and pursue joint policies in international trade agreements and by which they will conduct their external economic relations. Consequently, the OECS could represent member states at the Caribbean Group for Cooperation in Economic Development (CGCED), the ACP-EEC [African, Caribbean and Pacific-European Economic Community] negotiations, in bargaining with third countries or groups of countries, and even CARICOM.

I should mention that the treaty does not prohibit a member state from entering into an agreement with a third country or group of countries. However, it does require that such bilateral agreements do not "derogate from the provisions of the treaty." In other words, bilateral agreements by a member state are acceptable providing they do not conflict with the provisions of the treaty, or affect other agreements made with third countries or groups of countries by the OECS itself.

[Question] What happens if a member state does enter into a bilateral agreement which derogates from the treaty and how could any possible dispute be resolved?

[Answer] There is a provision of the treaty which recognizes the right of member states to participate in other arrangements, but if a member state enters into an agreement which is not compatible with OECS treaty, the state concerned would be required to take all appropriate steps to eliminate the incompatibilities established. Moreover, the treaty lays down a procedure for the settlement of disputes. In the first place, the parties to the dispute are required to enter into direct discussions for the purpose of settling the dispute. If the dispute is not resolved within 3 months any party to the dispute may submit it to a conciliation commission consisting of five jurists and the decision of the commission will be binding on all parties.

[Question] Let's look at the CARICOM-OECS relationship. Since OECS represents seven of the countries in CARICOM, could it not become a divisive force within the wider regional grouping?

[Answer] In addressing that question, we must bear in mind that while the OECS will be a partnership by treaty of seven countries, CARICOM is also a partnership by treaty. The fact of a new relationship among seven of the member-states of CARICOM in no way derogates from their wider commitment.

[Question] As a final question then, do you expect the transition to the OECS to be smooth?

[Answer] Every new organization has teething problems and I expect the OECS to have a few until the machinery is set in place and the procedures are clearly understood. But, the organization is beginning with a great deal of good will from sister Caribbean countries and the international community. Further, it will inherit a number of associate institutions well-practiced in meaningful areas of functional cooperation and this will be a great aid to its work. It also begins with a commitment to its success from the member states themselves. Given those circumstances, I truly believe the OECS will experience a smoother launching and a more rapid momentum than other similar organizations.

BARBADOS

ADMAS SHOCKED AT REAGAN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

FL021437 Bridgetown CANA in English 1421 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, 2 Apr (CANA)--Barbados' Prime Minister Tom Adams has expressed shock at the attempted assassination last Monday of United States President Ronald Reagan.

Mr Adams in a message to Mr Reagan said the Government and people of Barbados join with me in expressing deep shock at the attempt on your life. We shared with your family and relatives and with the American Government and people, the moments of anxiety which immediately followed the incident.

It was with relief that we later learned that you were expected to make a full recovery. Please accept out best wishes for a speedy recovery and early release from hospital and return to normal duties, he added.

The president underwent surgery for the removal of a bullet from his left lung. His press secretary who was also injured in the assassination attempt is said to be making a fast recovery.

DOMINICA

CHARLES OPENS 'WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT' MEETING

FL022018 Bridgetown CANA in English 2004 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Excerpts] Roseau, Dominica, 2 Apr (CANA)--A 2-day meeting of ministers with responsibility for the integration of women in development opened here today with a call for women throughout the region to continue to look for equality and take steps to insure active participation in their country. Dominica's prime minister, Mary Eugenia Charles, herself the first woman prime minister of the Caribbean, made the plea as she opened the meeting which has brought together delegates from across the Caribbean. Of the 12 CARICOM states, Antigua, Belize and Trinidad and Tobago are not attending.

Particularly the socioeconomic position of women in relation to their health, legal status education and training. [as received]

Miss Charles said that while it is true for many years women have been dependent on men "it is out of this distortion, this magnitude assessment of the role of men and women on the world that many of the disadvantages have been meted out to women.'

But Miss Charles said that it was not enough to talk "women in development" but necessary to take action to be in development. She warned of detractors who would try to confuse women in such a role noting "for often it is members of our own sex who take joy in making us lose our material love of independence of self-respect and our confidence."

The woman prime minister noted that the region at the moment was faced with a lot of differences. "This is a region in which there are several differences existing between various states. There are of course ideological differences and there are differences as to the availability of manpower and other resources." She noted "We can achieve much more than we can do each of us on our own to be positive in our thinking and our planning in pushing this region and our countries forward."

Secretary general of the CARICOM Community Secretariat, Dr Kurleigh King, in his address called on conference participants to ensure that the meeting must assist with the movement towards the equality development and peace as envisaged by the United Nation's decade for women. But he warned that presently "there is yet no wide consensus on how to integrate women in development or even on the role that they should be encouraged or assisted to play." He said that the program of action for the second half of the decade for women identifies some new areas for action and new strategies for achieving the objectives of equality, development and peace.

GRENADA

DIPLOMATIC CAMPAIGN TO OFFSET U.S. ACTION ON AIRPORT

FLO22255 Bridgetown CANA in English 2247 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Excerpt] St Georges, Grenada, 2 Apr (CANA)--The Grenada Government said today it was planning a major diplomatic campaign to offset what it said were efforts by the United States to "sabotage the completion" of its first international airport now under construction.

Cuba has supplied equipment and labor in the initial building phase but the Grenada Government needs a massive injection of capital to finance the 35-million dollars (U.S.) airport.

The European Economic Community is hosting a conference of potential aid donors in Brussels on 14-15 April. Countries including Cuba, the United States, Canada, Sweden and Venezuela have been invited to attend the meeting. But the U.S. expressed concern last week about EEC aid to the airport project amid its fears that it may be used by Cuba as a military base. Grenada has close ties with Cuba.

Prime Minister Maurice Bishop has denounced the U.S. action and was today quoted by the Government Information Service (GIS) as saying that letters had been dispatched to all government leaders in the Middle East and Europe seeking their support for Grenada. "All of this country's overseas missions are also planning meetings with ambassadors from these countries at which the value of the project for Grenada will be discussed," the GIS said. The campaign will climax, the statement said, at a massive rally on 12 April at the site of the airport at Point Salines, just 5 miles east of the capital, St Georges.

Mr Bishop met representatives of the private sector, youth groups, church leaders and service organizations yesterday to bring them up to date on the situation. The GIS said that more than 80 representatives pledged, in their individual capacities, wholehearted support for the project.

Mr Bishop told the organizations that the private sector will be part of the Grenada delegation to the Brussels conference.

UNIONS CHARGE VICTIMIZATION IN SALARY DISPUTE

FL022232 Bridgetown CANA in English 2224 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 2 Apr (CANA)--Three public service unions today cried victimization as the Grenada Government steadfastly refused to rescind dismissal and transfer notices sent to 70 employees who went on a sick-out for 2 days early last month to press for more pay. Despite calls from the labor unions to withdraw the letters, the government replied "the disciplinary measures which have been taken against those transferred and suspended at half-pay with a view to dismissals will stand."

Talks between the government and the Grenada Union of Teachers, the Public Workers Union and the Technical and Allied Workers Union for a new pay agreement broke down in February.

On March 3 and 4, the civil services was hit by a sick-out and the government struck back by taking disciplinary action against some of those involved. The unions want salary raises of 50 percent over three years but the government says it cannot afford more than 32.5 percent.

A statement from the unions today said the government was "obviously victimizing indivuduals who acted within the legitimate rights to take industrial action in furtherance of dispute." They said that the case against the government would be put to other organizations and affiliates both in and outside Grenada. The unions said that there would be no resumption of negotiations on salaries until the government withdrew the offending letters.

JAMAICA

SEAGA ANNOUNCES CONCLUSION OF IMF NEGOTIATIONS

FL021211 Bridgetown CANA in English 0248 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, 1 Apr (CANA)--Prime Minister Edward Seaga tonight announced that his government had concluded negotiations with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for nearly 700 million dollars (U.S.) in balance of payments support for financially troubled Jamaica.

In a statement issued here, the prime minister also indicated that additional funds were in the pipeline from friendly governments to aid the country's economic recovery.

Agreement had been reached in principle with the IMF, said Mr Seaga, and it was now for the board to give its ratification which he expected by mid-April.

The IMF package comprises 650 million dollars (U.S.) for a 3-year extended fund facility and compensatory financing in respect of a shortfall in exports of 48 million dollars.

Mr Seaga said that parallel with the IMF talks, negotiations had been carried out with the steering committee of a grouping of commercial banks for refinancing 103 million dollars of Jamaican debts which will become due within the next two financial years. Agreement in principle had now been reached with the steering committee, said Mr Seaga, and this plan had now been recommended to the more than 70 other banks for acceptance.

The Jamaican prime minister, who is also minister of finance, said replies were expected during this month. New financing for 70 million dollars (U.S.) had also been discussed with the steering comaittee which agreed to syndicate this new loan, Mr Seaga added.

COLOMBIA

ARMY COMMANDER CALLS FOR SOCIAL, POLITICAL CHANGES

PA030205 Paris AFP in Spanish 0125 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Text] Bogota, 1 Apr (AFP)--The Colombian Army asked here today for socioeconomic and political changes to wipe out subversion, and it predicted worse days ahead for the country.

This proposal was made by Gen Fernando Landazabal Reyes, army commander, in an editorial in the latest edition of the army's magazine, released on Wednesday.

In his article, the general particularly stressed: "Subversion survives, with greater strength than before, and with the souls of patriotic and loyal soldiers, we have the vague premonition of worse days to come. We are convinced that the army can militarily destroy the guerrillas, but we are also convinced that even with this, subversion will continue as long as the objective and subjective conditions in the economic, social and political fields, which daily impair and disrupt stability, are not modified."

After reiterating the army's deep concern over the present situation in Colombia, Landazabal Reyes said:

"In the last 3 decades, the troops in particular have suffered the most undesirable of all conflicts: the conflict of a people divided into factions which are irrationally fluctuating between senselessness and violence, yet with a warm ray of hope that someday they will be living together in peace."

After praising the work of the officers and soldiers who successfully fought against the subversive 19 April Movement in the southern part of the country in March, "frustrating the bloodthirsty appetite of the enemies of the fatherland," the commander of the army called on all Colombians to "search for goals that will place the country above anything that represents a coarse and loathsome affirmation of sectarianism and iniquity."

The article by General Landazabal Reyes, which has not yet prompted an official reaction, caused an enormous commotion in the media, which pointed out that this is the first time in many years that a ranking officer on active duty has made a statement of this sort.

PANAMA

HONDURAN PRISONERS' NEXT DESTINATION UNKNOWN

PA011457 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Interview with Panamanian Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Maria Cabrera at Tocumen Airport 31 March--By unidentified RPC newsmen--recorded]

[Text] [Question] It was initially mentioned that Cuba would be the next destination of this group of guerrillas. Has the Panamanian Government indicated their next destination?

[Answer] Well, this is not something we can decide unilaterally. We are making diplomatic efforts with friendly governments to have one of them accept these persons.

[Question] Mr Deputy Foreign Minister, what will be the Panamanian Government's attitude from now on?

[Answer] These persons are under the protective custody of our authorities and, when the final phase of this matter is resolved, that is, when these persons have been subsequently sent to a destination outside of Panama, the matter will be definitely concluded.

SURINAME

CHURCHES URGE U.S. TO STOP SUPPORT FOR EL SALVADOR

FL021738 Bridgetown CANA in English 1715 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, 2 Apr (CANA)--The Suriname Council of Churches (SCC) has called on the United States to end its military support to El Salvador so as to pave the way for a return to peace in the strife-torn Central American republic.

The SCC's call was made by Deputy Chairman Msgr Aloyous Zichem at a memorial service held in honor of the late Salvadoran Archbishop Oscar Romero. Copies of Bishop Zichem's speech were dispatched in cables to acting archbishop of El Salvador and the U.S. Ambassador to Suriname John Crawley.

El Salvador has been undergoing months of civil unrest with leftwing guerrillas trying to overthrow the military junta there. The U.S. has accused Cuba and Nicaragua of aiding the flow of Russian arms to the guerrillas, and has stepped up its assistance to the junta.

Bishop Zichem said that because of the U.S. assistance, "this support blocks the way to finding a solution to the conflict." Bishop Zichem, who is also Roman Catholic bishop of Suriname, said that Archbishop Romero died while struggling against a world-wide system of injustices and oppression. His death must inspire us to offer resistance to iniquities. We do not believe in the right of the strongest, or the violence of weapons and power. We believe in the rights of the people and that a better world is possible, in which justice prevails, the bishop stated.

Bishop Zichem pointed out that Suriname and El Salvador both belonged to the Third World, adding that what was taking place in El Salvador was not an internal conflict, but a manifestation of the atrocious fate the Third World faces.

The bishop lashed at the super powers for using the Third World as battle fields to air their grievances. We are the victims of a pernicious system, which did not come about as a result of fate or natural disaster, but has been created by people...people who oppress and misuse others, the bishop declared.

BRIEFS

NEW ENVOYS--Paramaribo, Suriname, 2 Apr (CANA)--The Government Information Service (GIS) has announced that the country's new ambassador to the United Nations, Dr I. Sewrajsingh, has presented his credentials to UN Secretary-General Dr Kurt Waldheim. The GIS also said its deputy ambassador in The Netherlands, Mr R. Van Dyke, has been posted to Brussels to the European Economic Community (EEC). [Excerpt] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1455 GMT 2 Apr 81 FL]